FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 MARCH 1986

French Hostages in Lebanon

The Islamic Jihad issued a communique 14 March announcing its refusal to hold further talks with French envoys until it receives a clear and positive answer to its demands from France, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The Jihad organization also distributed a videotape of its three French hostages. In a related development reported by the radio, French envoy Razzah Ra'd told Beirut's *AL-NAHAR* that he is "optimistic" about the release of the hostages held by the Jihad, though he noted that the negotiations have not covered the four-man French television crew kidnapped 8 March. Meanwhile, French intelligence sources cited by *LE MONDE* said that hostage Michel Seurat is believed to have been killed 2-3 months ago by the Islamic Jihad, which then waited for an "opportune" moment to announce his execution, according to AFP.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces defeated Iraqi attacks in the Panjwin area 11 and 12 March, killing or wounding 200 Iraqi troops, according to an Iranian military statement reported by Tehran radio. The radio subsequently claimed that Iranian aircraft bombed an Iraqi oil platform 14 March, inflicting "irreparable" damage.

Meanwhile, Iraqi aircraft attacked an Iranian command center, a television relay station in the Tehran area, a munitions factory in Shushtar, and the "strategic" Qotur bridge near the Iranian-Turkish border 13 March, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

Iran; OPEC Affairs

The Iranian oil minister confirmed in remarks reported by Tehran radio that he will urge the forthcoming OPEC conference to adopt Iran's proposal to suspend oil exports to Western countries. Noting that Iran has been holding talks with non-OPEC countries, he contended that "countries like the Soviet Union and the PRC agree with us in confronting oil intrigues."

Meanwhile, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Petur Mladenov met with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati during a 1-day visit to Iran, Tehran radio reported. Mladenov said the visit, his first since the Islamic revolution, was "excellent and positive," the report added.

Egypt-Israel: Tabah Talks

The Egyptian and Israeli delegations agreed on some procedural questions concerning arbitration but "much remains unresolved and the gap between the two delegations is still wide," the Egyptian delegation leader stated in remarks reported by MENA following his return to Cairo. He noted that the Tabah talks will resume in Egypt 19 March.

Libya-Sudan

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and his delegation, Tripoli radio reported. Daf'allah told Al-Qadhdhafi of Sudan's support for Libya against "imperialist and Zionist provocations," the report added.

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Murphy Reiterates 'Same Loathsome Talk'

JN131938 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1736 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Murphy came and left but will undoubtedly return. The special U.S. envoy came to the region to merely say what the U.S. Administration always says: Reactivate the peace process in the region, but without the PLO. This means continuing to try to eliminate the PLO from the background and equation of the conflict. The U.S. decision remains the same: Seek to liquidate the PLO and establish a separate solution in the region at the expense of the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights and, subsequently, at the expense of Arab rights, interests, dignity, sovereignty, and independence.

Of course, the standard propaganda of the loathsome U.S. talk is no longer able to maneuver since credibility is no longer a prerequisite of the U.S. talk itself. The truth of the hostile U.S. stand on our Palestinian people's legitimate rights, foremost of which is their right to self-determination, is clearly exposed so U.S. talk about reactivating the peace process has become meaningless. It merely means U.S. insistence on obliterating our people's inalienable, just, and legitimate rights. Of course, we know that this U.S. insistence is merely another form of the constant U.S. attack against the PLO and our people's sacred rights. This attack is aimed at liquidating the PLO by dragging it into making fundamental concessions which would end its role as a sole, legitimate representative of our militant people and place it in a position not permitting it to speak about and demand its people's sacred rights. We know this only too well.

More importantly, we know further confrontation and steadfastness against this ugly U.S. attack is the only way to defeat it and impose our will and just conditions on the decision-makers in the U.S. Administration. This is the decision of our people, revolution, and valiant leadership. We also know that attempts to find alternative leaderships for the PLO will never succeed and will only face failure, the fate of numerous similar attempts known to all the parties to the conflict, principally to the owners of such attempts.

Let Murphy come and go and let him reiterate the same loathsome talk. That is his business and it is the business of his administration. However, the business of our people, revolution, and leadership is further confrontation and struggle on all fronts and using every legitimate means. This is because this is the course which we have chosen with our own free will, the revolution course leading to freedom within our independent Palestinian state. We will achieve our objectives on our conditions and not by depriving us of our will, independent decisionmaking, and sacred national rights, of which no one will ever deprive us.

'Arafat Exchanges Messages With Yugoslav Leaders

JN131822 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a private message to the Yugoslavian leadership dealing with the Palestinian situation in light of recent political developments. The PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY, WAFA, said brother leader Abu 'Ammar gave this message to the Yugoslav ambassador in Tunis when he received him yesterday.

The ambassador conveyed to Brother Abu 'Ammar a message from the Yugoslav leadership dealing with the latest developments in the Middle East and the Mediterranean in accordance with Yugoslav's leadership's recent statement on the security and safety of the Mediterranean region.

Fatah's Khalaf on Aftermath of Al-Masri Killing

PM130937 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 12-18 Mar 86 p 17

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and in charge of Palestinian revolution security, by *AL-MAJALLAH* correspondent in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] Question: A number of organizations have claimed responsibility for the assassination of [Nabulus mayor] Zafir Al-Masri. How do you explain this, and who is responsible, in your opinion?

Answer: In my view the only party with an interest in Al-Masri's murder is the Israeli Mosad, because his appointment as mayor of Nabulus was part of a plan for the unilateral implementation of autonomy. But his appointment was made conditional on his refraining from interfering in political matters. But Al-Masri, an ardent, patriotic young man, continued to maintain that the PLO is responsible for the Palestinian cause. His last statement on this subject followed King Husayn's speech, and in it he declared his commitment to the PLO and its decisions.

Question: In view of the Al-Masri family's demand for revenge, some people expect the start of a Palestinian civil war in the West Bank and other areas.

Answer: That is why I said Israel is the only one to benefit from the assassination. But I believe our people, who believe in democratic dialogue and who turned Al-Masri's funeral into an occasion to demonstrate their patriotism and loyalty to the PLO, cannot possibly make such a mistake. The principle of democratic dialogue was first violated when Sa'id Hamami was assassinated in London in 1978. It was thus confirmed that getting rid of him served only Israeli interests. For this reason I consider the PFLP's announcement of its responsibility for the assassination a deviation from its previous line, laying claim to an operation with which it had nothing to do. Even if the PFLP was involved in this action, I believe that a suspect party pushed it in that direction.

Question: It is known that Dr Wadi' Haddad, cofounder of the PFLP, believed in clandestine action and special operations, but he never directed his weapons against any Arab or Palestinian targets. Where did this new trend in the Palestinian arena come from?

Answer: During his lifetime Dr Haddad disagreed with his colleagues. There were three currents: The first believed in action only inside the occupied territories. The second, quite opposite to

the first, believed in external action as the principal action; I believe that the proponents of this line are the ones behind Al-Masri's assassination. As for the third, led by Dr Haddad, who left the PFLP after 1975, it believed in action inside and outside the occupied territories on the basis of the theory that killing any Israeli or American working in intelligence in any part of the world is an indivisible part of the Palestinian people's struggle against occupation. Wadi' Haddad's method and philosophy of action were based on the theory of pursuing the enemy everywhere. He refused to kill any Palestinian or Arab even though he might differ with his views. I would like to mention here that certain Arab intelligence organs tried to involve him in liquidations inside the Palestinian arena, but he strongly refused, because he was not involved with any Arab intelligence.

Question: As far as you are concerned, you stopped external operations long ago. Are you still committed to that?

Answer: We consider action in the occupied territories as the principal action. In 1974, our PNC adopted a resolution halting external operations in response to the Arab countries' wishes and in return for their recognition of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Some of us believed that there was some hope looming on the horizon, although others believed that liberation could be achieved only with the gun. Now, if we look back in the light of the experiences we have been through, we find that the result has been more setbacks and conspiracies against our revolution and people and attempts to renege on the obligations to the Palestinian people and the PLO.

The result was also that certain parties began challenging the PLO, thinking it had become a lifeless body. For this reason I believe the resolution in question should be revised, as should the Cairo declaration, particularly since the other side has violated it and is continuing its operations against us. I say that all our previous military and diplomatic policies should be revised, particularly since certain people have come to believe we have become a burden on them. I declare here that we have recommenced clandestine operations, that we are in the process of expanding these operations, and that we shall expand them and shall prove this shortly.

Question: Does this not mean that you might engage in something against which you are warning, that is, the vicious circle of political assassinations?

Answer: I mean, and I am aware of, every word I say. There is a difference between political assassination and the execution of spies and traitors. We refuse to appoint ourselves judges of those with whom we disagree in views and interpretations, but we will not hesitate — and I say this frankly and emphatically — we will not hesitate to take action against those who are fighting our revolution overtly and covertly.

Question: Do you not think that this would lead to an intensification of the hunt for you, particularly since the Palestinian leadership has long been the target of bullets and of "silencing by the gun"?

Answer: There is nothing new in this. I must say that, whereas Israel hunts us with planes and others with "silencers," other parties, still are trying to assassinate us politically, which is more dangerous because the objective is to liquidate our cause. Those who are trying to railroad us into accepting Resolution 242, disregarding our concepts and conditions, most important of which is the right to self-determination and the establishment of our national state, are trying to assassinate us politically. But we will not remain silent, nor will we enable them to silence us.

PNC Speaker Urges Awareness of PLO, Jordan Ties

GF131449 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Mar (QNA) — PNC Speaker Shaykh 'abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has said the Palestinians believe any move on their part in the Arab and international arenas cannot ignore Jordan's effect in supporting such a move and that Jordan, in return, cannot ignore its role in supporting the Palestinian move.

In a statement published today in the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-ANBA'*, the PNC speaker noted that the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples are in one trench and that they are being urged to seek a firm plan that stems from the supreme Arab interest.

Responding to a question on Palestinian differences, he emphasized the importance of terminating such differences by any means. He noted that the Baghdad conference has opened the way for an unconditional dialogue and that the conference has succeeded in starting a dialogue with some Palestinian organizations.

The PNC speaker asserted that the Palestinian interest requires such dialogue and the elimination of differences to unify efforts in one front and to proceed from legitimate PLO institutions.

In conclusion, the PNC speaker called on the USSR to participate in pushing ahead efforts to convene the international conference on Middle East peace, under UN auspices, to include the attendance of the five permanent UN Security Council member countries and the participation of all parties including the PLO.

APS: Assembly Official Receives PLO Representative

LD121646 Algiers APS in English 1020 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/3/86 (APS) — The vice-president of the National People's Assembly, Djelloul Melaika, received Tuesday [11 March] here, the head of the PLO Bureau in Algeria, Abu al-'Izz.

Talks dealt with the situation in Middle East and the recent developments of the Palestinian struggle. The relations between the National People's Assembly and the Palestinian National Council and the prospects of their reinforcement were also examined.

Joint Forces Stage Dawn Attack Near Hasbayya

JN131824 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The Palestinian-national Lebanese joint forces launched a machinegun, rocket, and hand grenade attack at dawn today against a military position belonging to militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in the eastern sector of the so-called security zone near Hasbayya. The position sustained grave damage and a large number of agent elements were either killed or wounded.

Combat Groups Detonate Explosives at Bus Station

JN122035 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

In accordance with specific instructions, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland managed to place timed explosive charges at a bus station in the settlement of Bet She'an in the Jordan Valley. The explosion destroyed a number of buses at the station and the resulting fires heavily damaged the station itself. After carrying out their mission successfully, our revolutionaries managed to withdrew safely despite the Zionist occupation forces' security siege. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command.

The enemy police admitted our revolutionaries' brave operation, but claimed that only three buses were completely destroyed and that a fire broke out in the settlement of Bet She'an in the Jordan Valley.

'Force 17' Reportedly Claims Tel Aviv Suburb Bombing

NC111138 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Tel Aviv, March 11 (AFP) -- A bomb exploded injuring a woman on Tuesday near a bus station at Ramat Gun, a suburb of Tel Aviv, police said. Police immediately arrested four suspects.

In Beirut, responsibility for the bombing was claimed by the Palestinian group Force 17, which once provided bodyguards for Yasir 'Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

An anonymous telephone caller to a foreign press agency in the Lebanese capital said there had been "several victims in the enemy ranks."

Nigeria's Lukman To Urge OPEC Production Cutbacks

AB121605 Paris AFP in English 1524 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Text] Lagos, March 12 (AFP) — Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman intends to advocate production cutbacks for the Organization of Oil Exporting Countries (OPEC) at the body's meeting in Geneva next weekend, Mr Lukman said here on Wednesday. "It's the only way you can have stability in the market," Mr Lukman told journalists. "There is an excess of 1.5 to 2 million barrels per day (BPD), out of a total world production of 28 million BPD, of which OPEC has about 15.5 million," he said. "If that can be taken out, the price should rally."

Mr Lukman said that both consumers and producers would benefit if the market stabilized at a "reasonable level" of 20 to 25 dollars per barrel. Lower prices would cause a steep increase in consumption which would deplete world reserves until a sudden shortage would send oil prices soaring again, causing a damaging recession, he stated.

"Our position is going to be to go for a reasonably fair price for oil that will ensure fair stability within the marketplace," he said. "We would urge OPEC to agree to some quantitative controls in production management, so the market is not as erratic as it is now." "That will probably be the position of most countries, OPEC or not OPEC, producing or non-producing," he added.

On solidarity among African countries, Mr Lukman said oil ministers of the four African member-states of OPEC (Libya, Gabon, Nigeria and Algeria) agreed recently in Algiers to elaborate a "common approach" with other African producers. He said Nigeria would contact its two oil-producing neighbors, Benin and Cameroon, while Algeria would confer with Egypt and Tunisia, and Gabon would meet with officials from Zaire and Angola.

The African OPEC countries had agreed, to the approach because "We want to save money," and not to set up a fixed,permanent secretariat, the minister said. "The host country of every meeting will provide the Secretariat services," he added.

Indonesian Minister on Reconciling OPEC Opinions

HK130618 Hong Kong AFP in English 0525 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Jakarta, March 13 (Afp) — Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Subroto said Thursday that differing opinions within the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will be hard to reconcile at its Geneva meeting next week.

Mr Subroto told reporters after a meeting with President Suharto that Indonesia did not stand by either of the two factions and remained adamant that only discussions between OPEC and non-OPEC ountries would lead to a solution on the current oil-price crisis.

Iran, Libya and Algeria are for a drastic cut in OPEC oil production from the present 16 million barrels per day to below 10 million barrels if possible, and suggest holding back exports for about a month to boost prices. Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries are pressing for OPEC to turn to maximum production to recover the share of the market it has lost since 1980.

Mr Subroto said Indonesia's proposal for talks between OPEC and non-OPEC countries had already received support from many non-OPEC countries such as Malaysia, the Soviet Union, Egypt, Mexico, Brunei and China. But he added that Britain and Norway — leading non-OPEC producers — have declined to cooperate saying their governments had no control over the free market.

BAHRAIN

Further Reportage on Visit by UK's Renton

Received by Amir

GF131253 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received in Manama today Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs [name and title as received] who is visiting Manama.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest, in addition to current developments in the region.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister of Bahrain, and Francis Trew, British ambassador to Bahrain.

The British minister arrived in Manama last night on a 2-day visit to Bahrain at the start of a tour of the region.

Received by Foreign Minister

GF131657 Manama WAKH in English 1525 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Mohammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah met here today with British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Commonwealth Timothy Renton.

The meeting was attended by Director of the Political Department at the Bahraini Foreign Ministry 'Ali Ibrahim Al Mahrus and British Ambassador to Bahrain Francis Trew and the delegation accompanying Mr Renton.

The GULF NEWS AGENCY learned that the talks dealt with issues of common interest, especially those concerning Iraq-Iran dispute.

The Bahraini minister has conveyed his country's and other GCC member states views towards the recent escalation of the Gulf war.

A well-informed source said that Gulf officials expressed the hope that Britain would play a more effective role towards ending the war peacefully.

The British official conveyed his country's and the EEC's views to the Bahraini foreign minister concerning the Iraq-Iran war, the source said.

The two sides discussed the Middle East situation, regional developments, and efforts made to find a solution to the Palestinian question based on the legitimate Palestinian right to self determination.

GULF NEWS AGENCY learned that the two sides reviewed bilateral relations especially in trade fields.

The source described the meeting as fruitful.

The source denied that the British minister was carrying a fresh initiative to end the Iraq-Iran war during his tour of the region.

The British official is to leave Bahrain for Doha today as part of his regional tour.

Minister Departs for Doha

GF131909 Manama WAKH in English 1545 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Timothy Renton left here for Doha, Qatar today as part of a tour that will also take him to the UAE.

During his visit, Renton met with Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah for a review of bilateral relations and current regional developments.

The two sides also discussed the recent escalation of the Gulf war, Middle East issue and means of boosting cooperation between the two countries in trade fields.

UK's Queen Elizabeth Makes Stopover, Meets Amir

GF140650 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0555 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 14 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, met in Manama early today with Queen Elizabeth II and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh during her stopover at Bahrain International Airport on her flight home from Australia. During the meeting, they exchanged friendly talks and discussed bilateral relations.

The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah led the delegation, which saw off Queen Elizabeth and her husband the Duke of Edinburgh and their accompanying delegation when they departed Bahrain for London early today.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives 13 Mar

GF131907 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 13 Mar (WAKH) — South Yemeni Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived here from the UAE on a visit to Bahrain as part of a regional tour.

During the two-day visit, Al-Dali will convey a message to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah from South Yemeni President Haydar al-'Attas.

Conveys Message to Amir

GF140856 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 14 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, has received a written message from Haydar abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, on the recent developments in the PDRY and affirming continued relations of good neighborliness and fraternity among the region's countries.

The message was conveyed by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY minister of foreign affairs, during his meeting with the amir here this morning.

Foreign Minister on GCC Media Cooperation

GF140425 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Foreign Minister Tariq 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad has affirmed that the information coordination exists between the GCC states and it is vital that there is a unified policy and a realistic comprehension of the achievements of the GCC leaders.

In a statement to Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* published today, the Bahraini minister explained that the GCC states are striving to achieve maximum cooperation between the information organs.

He said: These goals must be achieved through the official and popular information organs. We are required to present a unified stand whether to the sons of the region or to the other countries of the world through the GCC news agencies and information organs.

Al-Mu'ayyad added that the solidity of the internal and external front which can be enhanced with clear and frank stands is the concern of the sons of this region and is an important factor in achieving peace and security.

KUWAIT

UAE Paper on Force To Protect Oil Installations

GF141115 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0815 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Mar (WAM) — Knowledgeable Kuwaiti sources have stated that the Kuwaiti Government has decided to form a special force to protect oil installations. This force will be supplied with the most advanced military equipment and will be trained on the most up-to-date technology in order to counter any possible sabotage of Kuwait's oil installations.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, the source said that checkpoints will be set up and security patrols will be intensified around these installations. This measure is in the framework of Kuwait's security plan.

U.S., Libya, Iran Blamed for Oil Price Drop

GF140431 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Mar 86 p 24

["Political Papers" column by 'Abdallah 'Iqbal al-Khatib: "OPEC's Political War"]

[Text] OPEC's political war has begun to crystalize more clearly with the statement by EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson, in which he warned that the drop in oil prices will continue to less than "$15" per barrel. He said that this decline means that the world is heading toward the unknown because the danger of this decline exemplifies an increase in the surplus of balance of payments in countries like Japan and the FRG, thus threatening to create financial tensions beyond control.

The "U.S. game" to hit oil prices seems to have produced unexpected and reciprocal effects on the kings of the game after they ran out of the stock of their decayed arms, which were traded for oil, and after some countries which are in need of arms began demanding new and advanced arms. This issue is of concern to the United States and France.

A trend that is almost destined to failure has appeared. This trend is Libya and Iran taking control of OPEC. Parallel with it is a firm and well planned trend taken by Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states aiming to maintain their traditional control of OPEC. Al-Qadhdhafi, in his belief that the Iraq-Iran war will sweep up the Gulf states "unless they agree to decrease their oil production", has become the symbol of the political game to control OPEC.

In addition, there is a huge asset of petro-dollars amounting to $100 billion in Saudi Arabia. Such an asset is sufficient to launch an all-out price war. However, the Iranian-Libyan bloc has a big crack regarding the trade of oil for arms and a huge demand for arms not easily obtained in light of current prices. The Iranian-Libyan bloc has also revealed plans to extend the Iraq-Iran conflict and genuine greed toward the Arab Gulf.

AL-QABAS Comments on New U.S. Stand on PLO

GF131957 Doha QNA in Arabic 1555 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Mar (QNA) — Press reports published here today state that Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has informed King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, of a development in the U.S. stand toward the Middle East peace process. This stand is represented in what Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs, told him concerning a possible U.S. consent to the PLO's participation in the international conference for Middle East peace on the condition that the PLO softens its political stand.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, which published the report quoting Palestinian sources, added that the Jordanian King would visit Cairo shortly to discuss the situation in the region in light of the recent development of the Jordanian-Palestinian relations. The paper also stated that the Egyptian president has

asked 'Arafat to keep in contact with him during King Husayn's visit to Cairo.

The paper stated that the Egyptian president intends to ask the Jordanian king to meet with 'Arafat in Cairo or elsewhere to return the Jordanian-Palestinian relations to normal.

Commenting on this new U.S. stand which Murphy has conveyed to President Mubarak, *AL-QABAS* stated that it is the first time that the United States has not demanded the PLO's recognition of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as a precondition for dealing with the PLO.

Murphy visited Cairo recently as part of a tour of the region which included Tunisia, Jordan, and occupied Palestine.

OMAN

Consultative Council Delegation Leaves for U.S.

GF140857 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] A state's consultative assembly delegation, led by Shaykh Aflah ibn Hamad al-Rawahi, deputy speaker of the state's Consultative Council, left for Washington this morning on a 2-week visit. The delegation includes Shaykh 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah al-Khalili and 'Isa ibn Muhammad ibn 'Isa.

During the visit, the delegation will hold a number of meetings with a number of U.S. Congress senior officials. It will also discuss the Sultanate's experiment with the state's Consultative Council.

The delegation was seen off by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Nabhani, the council's secretary general, the U.S. ambassador to the Sultanate, and the council's assistant secretary general for protocol and public relations.

Oil Minister Discusses Oil Price Situation

GF140901 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Sa'id ibn Ahmad al-Shanfari, minister of petroleum and minerals, has reiterated the need to achieve accord among all oil-producing countries in order to prevent a further collapse in oil prices. He noted that the oil-producing countries will be directly hit as a result of these practices [as heard] which harm their national reserves.

In a statement, to be published tomorrow in the newspaper *AL-WATAN*, Al-Shanfari said: The GCC countries are making strenuous efforts to find a formula acceptable to all parties to reach some sort of understanding to return the situation to normal before the collapse of oil prices.

Concerning the extraordinary GCC oil ministers conference, he said: We discussed the current price situation. We all affirmed the need to reach an understanding among OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries. We also affirmed the need for commitment to and respect for this in order to reach one goal: consolidating and reviving prices and preserving the reserves which should remain where they are if they should be sold at this low price.

Concerning prospects for the expanded meeting of oil-producing countries, the minister said: We hope that there will be solutions and that these countries understand the volume of loss which has afflicted their economy. We hope these countries are trying to reach a solution that will protect this wealth from the current waste.

Discussing the options of the GCC countries if oil-producing countries do not reach an agreement on a certain formula, he said there are many options for the GCC countries they will use to protect their vital national wealth. These options will be decided during an extraordinary meeting which will directly precede the Geneva meeting in which we will discuss future strategy.

Concerning future oil plans in the Sultanate, the minister said: The current plan witnesses the highest oil production, expected to reach 650,000 barrels per day, during the 5-year plan. This is the highest production the Sultanate is able to market.

Concerning the future of the oil industry, the minister said: The capacity of the Oman oil refinery will be expanded to 80,000 barrels per day in order to meet the country's requirements.

PDRY

Minerals Minister, USSR Envoy Discuss Cooperation

GF131330 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, member of the YSP Central Committee, deputy prime minister, and minister of energy and minerals, received in his office today Comrade Vladislav Zhukov, the USSR ambassador in Aden. During the meeting, they discussed aspects of economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun expressed congratulations on the success of the 27th CPSU Congress. He praised the USSR's internationalist stand in support for the struggle of progressive countries. On his part, the USSR ambassador affirmed continued Soviet support for the PDRY to develop and construct the social and economic life of our Yemeni people.

QATAR

British Official Arrives for Visit 13 March

GF131910 Doha QNA in Arabic 1840 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Timothy Renton, British minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, arrived in Doha this evening from Manama on a 3-day visit to the state of Qatar as part of his current tour of the region. He was received at Doha International Airport by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs. During his visit, the

British minister will discuss with a number of senior Qatari officials the current situation in the region, and issues of mutual concern in addition to ways to enhance the relations between the state of Qatar and the United Kingdom.

Oil Minister Leaves for Geneva OPEC Meeting

GF131251 Doha QNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 13 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari minister of finance and oil, left Doha today for Geneva to attend the OPEC Ministerial Council meeting. The council will discuss a reconsideration of price structure, and the member countries' quotas and the means to defend them in the oil market.

The meeting is scheduled to be followed by an expanded meeting which will include five other oil-producers to discuss the low oil prices in the international market.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-BILAD Comments on King Fahd Speech

GF140416 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] The newspaper *AL-BILAD* has commented on the historic speech delivered by His Majesty King Fahd to his sons, the citizens. The paper said: This speech stresses an important and well-known fact. The fact is that the Kingdom has continuously been playing an effective role on the level of the political and diplomatic action to heal the rift among the brothers in the Arab world. It also continues its intensive moves and its sincere efforts to preserve stability in the region. The Kingdom dedicates all its capabilities and energies to attain this goal.

In the framework of the Kingdom's comprehensive peaceful role designed to bring the brothers closer, to attain the unity of ranks, and to achieve peace and stability — to which the Kingdom and all peoples and countries of the region aspire — our armed and courageous forces are ready to defend the rich homeland and its holy places, and to protect its achievements which are a symbol and tangible fact in every construction site of this good and pure land.

UAE

Further Reportage on Visit by PDRY Foreign Minister

Al-Dali Interviewed on Relations

GF131429 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 13 Mar 86 p 17

[Report on interview with PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali by Muhammad al-Sa'id Idris — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] Concerning rumors that a plan exists to reconcile with 'Ali Nasir and his group, PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali has said: Let us go back to the statements issued by the YSP Central Committee during its recent session and those of the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and his assistant. In all of these statements, including those issued by the Yemeni Supreme People's Council and the YSP Central Committee leader, it has been affirmed that those who planned and carried out the conspiracy would eventually be put on trial according to the effective laws. However, concerning those who were misled, even those who carried weapons against us, a decision has been made to review the possibility of issuing a general amnesty to allow them to lead normal lives. This decision was handed down by the YSP Central Committee and presented to the YSP Political Bureau for approval. We hope that it will be announced soon. Concerning mediation efforts to reconcile with some of 'Ali Nasir's men, there have been no such efforts or mediation attempts, and there have been no Soviet mediations in this regard.

There has been much speculation that recent events have affected the PDRY's relations with some fraternal Arab countries or other friendly countries. We affirm that there has been no negative effects on these relations. We have affirmed before that what has happened was an internal affair and does not affect any other country. We will continue to adhere to the policy adopted by the first YSP congress and its programs, especially with fraternal and other countries. We will adhere to what we have agreed upon with the fraternal Sultanate of Oman. We will work sincerely to accomplish all of the articles and principles of the agreement. We have confirmed this to our brothers in the Sultanate.

Concerning relations with the YAR, these relations are different from other foreign relations and handling them is not the responsibility of the Foreign Ministry. However, we must refer in this regard to a statement issued by the YSP Central Committee and the YSP Political Bureau which has praised the stance of [YAR President] 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih urging containment of the fighting. We do appreciate this stance, which indicates the national feeling and the unity of the cause. However, what has happened will in no way affect relations with the YAR. Relations exist and will continue to exist. Both parts of Yemen have stressed the need to resume the current dialogue. We hope to resume the current dialogue. We hope to resume the march to accomplish new steps to regain the unity of both parts of Yemen. The leadership of both parts is greatly concerned about this issue and is making all efforts to regain Yemeni unity.

Mubarak Sends Message to Mali's Traore

NC131309 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today sent a message to Malian President Moussa Traore on Egypt's views on African Issues. The message also deals with bilateral relations. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, gave the message to the Malian charge d'affaires in Cairo.

Interior Minister Badr on Police Conscript Training

NC131514 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Interior Minister Zaki Badr said today that there are a number of basic rules that will govern police activity now and in the future. These include a reduction in the number of police conscripts and improved levels of performance and service, which will be accompanied by the development of training programs and methods. He made these remarks during a ceremony held today by the General Administration for Security Forces Training. The festivities marked the conclusion of the training of an additional 6,000 conscripts who were attached to the police 4 months ago. The interior minister noted that the police must now look to the future on the basis of knowledge gained from the past. At the same time, the conscripts' level of service must be improved through education, a deepening of their awareness, and the eradication of illiteracy. They must be given health, social, and psychological care, their standard of living must be raised, and their skills must be refined. This will make them permanently qualified to carry out their mission in the service of their country's security.

Lutfi on Subsidy Study, Planned Measures

NC140923 Cairo MENA in English 0740 GMT 14 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, March 14 (MENA) — In an interview published by *AL-AHRAM* as its leading page story, Prime Minister Dr. 'Ali Lutfi said the Cabinet will meet Tuesday to work out and approve detailed plans and programmes for implementing the seven tasks President Husni Mubarak assigned to the government. Dr. Lutfi said the Cabinet meeting will continue until all executive programmes are agreed upon even if the meeting would have to be extended for another day or two. He said that the decisions of the Cabinet will accelerate rates of achievement and people will feel their effect in a short time. The prime minister said the Cabinet had recently completed a study of the issue of state subsidies and had agreed on a number of decisions that would provide a radical solution for having the subsidies reach limited - income citizens eligible to them in a facile and dignified way and for abolishing subsidies for the well-off citizens. The government, Dr. Lutfi also said, had decided on a number of measures that will not affect limited-income citizens for coping with the world-wide drop in the price of oil which would result in a drop of 1,200 million dollars a year even though the drop continued at the present rate. The prime minister said the Cabinet had begun discussing a new method for the management of the public sector and relieving it of all restrictions and spoke about government action to have model notary public, postal, telephone offices and other offices with which citizens have dealing, set up all over the country. He also spoke about measures for boosting tourism and agricultural output through the use of greenhouses that increase the yield of the land eight times its ordinary output and compensation for damages caused by the recent incidents.

Tabah Delegation Returns; 'Wide' Gap Remains

NC132134 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks, which was led by Ambassador Nabih al-'Arabi, head of the Foreign Ministry's Legal Department, returned to Cairo today after taking part in the fourth round of discussions held in the Israeli town of Herzliyya. In an arrival statement, Ambassador al-'Arabi noted that during this round, which took place yesterday and today, the Egyptian and Israeli delegations managed to agree on some procedural questions concerning the modalities [musharatat al-takhim] of arbitration. Nonetheless, much remains unresolved and the gap between the two delegations is still wide. He added that the talks will resume in Egypt on Wednesday in search of an accord. As for bilateral relations, Ambassador al-'Arabi stated that several issues were examined and that the Egyptian delegation reiterated the crucial importance of resolving the question of Dayr al-Sultan by returning it to the Egyptian Coptic Church. He pointed out that we have yet to receive any promise from the Israelis to take definite action on this, but they did pledge to make an attempt to work out a solution.

Soviet Official Praises Joint Trade Ties

NC131615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Mar (MENA) — A. V. Kazantsev, chairman of the Soviet Union's Chamber of Trade and Industry [title as received], who is currently visiting Egypt for the opening of the Cairo International Fair, has praised the commercial and economic relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, saying that they are constantly growing. Speaking at a press conference today, Kazantsev noted that Egypt is one of the Soviet Union's leading trade partners. He pointed out that it ranks sixth among Third World nations and second among African states in commercial dealings with his country. Kazantsev reported that the value of bilateral trade reached 770 million dollars in 1985. This represents a 50 percent increase over the previous year, and [word indistinct] in the coming years. He explained that some 40 percent of Soviet exports to Egypt are machines, equipment for industry, agriculture, and construction, cars, tractors, and spare parts. Egypt's exports to the Soviet Union include cotton, textiles, furniture, Khan al-Khalili [Cairo marketplace] products, agricultural goods — such as oranges and perfume — and medicinal herbs with an annual value of 100 million dollars. The Soviet official concluded by expressing his country's willingness to participate in the development of Egypt's national industries, particularly in the fields of agricultural mechanization, shipbuilding, and automobile production.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

'Surprise Defensive' Launched

JN131309 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] In statements to Baghdad radio and Voice of the Masses, a number of field commanders on the VII Army Corps front have asserted that from now on the Iranian enemy cannot even attempt to get out of the cordon imposed on it by the heroic Al-Rashid Forces. Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Hadithi, commander of the Al-Hamzah Forces, said our heroic units launched a daring surprise defensive 3 km deep into enemy positions within the context of a precise plan and according to our command's directives. The offensive, carried out under the supervision of the commander of the Al-Rashid column, was a daring, precise operation by formations of the heroic Al-Hamzah Forces which resulted in the destruction of enemy forces. He said the enemy sustained thousands of killed at two junctions. An important part of the dear homeland was liberated.

The commander of the Al-Hamzah Forces asserted that nothing was left of the enemy forces except for those captured by our heroic forces. Their weapons and equipment were seized.

The staff colonel commander in chief of the Qutaybah Forces said that a heroic unit of the Qutaybah Forces, in precise coordination with the Al-Hamzah Forces, was entrusted with making a thrust toward enemy positions in the direction of the southern column. After our artillery and other arms had taken their share of the aggressive invaders, the two units from the Qutaybah and Al-Hamzah forces under the leader of Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid surrounded the remnants of the enemy. Only those who surrendered were spared.

Communique No 2,148

JN131819 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,148 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continue their combat operations in the various operational sectors. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. At the VII Army Corps front: Following our Armed Forces' victory over the unjust enemy, our men continue to pursue the enemy with their concentrated fire, supported by our Air Force, helicopters, naval forces, and artillery, which dropped tons of explosives on the enemy. Furthermore, our forces have started to consolidate their newly liberated positions where the situation is stable in our forces' favor.

2. We will, without doubt, help our apostles and those who believe, both in this world's life and in the day when the witnesses will stand forth. The day will come when it will be no profit for wrongdoers to present their excuses, but they will only have the curse and the home of misery. [Koranic verses]

Our great Armed Forces will continue to represent the hope of our nation and people and great achievements. Our Air Force will continue to be a symbol of our national pride, implementing the will of our people under the leadership of the inspired national leader, Staff Marshal Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, the symbol of victory and the glorious leader.

Formations of our powerful Air Force led by hero of Al-Qadisiyah Lieutenant Colonel Salah Isma'il Nasir at 1140 [0840 GMT] today raided the strategic Qotur Bridge and turned it into rubble, thus cutting off a great part of the enemy's imports. This was only another part of our plan of imposing a blockade on our unjust enemy until it heeds the voice of reason or falls to certain destruction.

After carrying out their destructive mission, our pilots returned safely to the homeland, protected by God's care. Our eagles will continue to realize glorious deeds, fighting with pride and determination on the road to decisive victory under the leadership of the builder of our glory, President leader Saddam Husayn. We seek success from God.

3. Our powerful Air Force, the unsheathed sword, does not let any opportunity pass to pounce on enemy vital installations and the collapsing remnants in order to inflict further losses on the Khomeyniites as punishment for their aggression on our country. Our Air Force today carried out 236 combat missions, inflicting further heavy losses on the enemy and lending the best support to our triumphant land forces. Having successfully flown all these missions, our eagles returned safely to base, God be praised.

4. Continuing our victories in order to silence the voice of charlatansim, lies, and cheap hypocrisy, our Air Force launched a successful raid on television relay stations in the Taheri area, hitting their targets accurately and returning to the homeland with their planes, God be praised.

5. God wishes to grant us victory and make our enemies taste death at all times. Our Air Force launched two intensive attacks on an important command center for the Iranian forces in the (?Shijan) area at 1330 and 1334 [1030 and 1034 GMT] today. The great eagles scored accurate hits, destroyed the command's buildings over the heads of the Khomeynnittes, and set its remains on fire. Dense smoke was seen covering the target area. After carrying out their duties, our pilots returned to the homeland, safe and triumphant. God be praised. He is the best supporter.

6. God is great. He is our supporter in our fight to kill the enemies. God is great. Glory to you, O men of Iraq, who promised the people and their leader and fulfilled your promise. God is great. We will attack the enemy every hour. We will destroy their means of aggression and kill the evil spirits which are dwelling in their filthy bodies.

Our brave Armed Forces, while purging the land and destroying the scoundrels, are always alert, through our Air Force, to destroying enemy vital installations. After our Air Force's great acheivements today, a heroic formation of our daring aircraft led by hero of Al-Qadisiyah Major Mahmud Jasim Muhammad launched a lightning, surprise, and destructive attack on the war

industries factory in Shushtar at 1610 [1310 GMT] today. With precise hits, our eagles dropped tons of missiles on the factory, blowing up its installations and equipment and leaving it burning rubble. Thus, our Air Force has dealt a crippling blow to the Iranian regime and its war effort. Having carried out their duty with accuracy, our pilots returned to the homeland bringing news of victory. Glory be to our Air Force — command, officers, and other ranks. God be praised at all times.

7. Our helicopters continue to pounce on the enemies, tearing up their bodies and destroying their weapons and equipment. They lent support to our land forces in 213 combat missions, after which the helicopter pilots returned safely to base.

8. Our heroic air defensemen in the VII Army Corps front shot down two enemy helicopters with which the enemy tried to evacuate its losses at 1025 and 1205 today. God bless our courageous men. God be praised for this victory.

9. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector killed five enemy soldiers, damaged two excavators and one truck, and destroyed seven infantry positions and one ammunition dump. Two enemy soldiers were killed and two vehicles and one infantry position were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

10. The criminal enemy forces shelled the Mandali suburbs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 March 1986

Further on French Hostage Negotiations; Seurat

Ra'd Affirms Seurat Killed

NC141218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] After 48 hours of talks with the kidnappers, Dr Razzah Ra'd, French envoy of Lebanese origin, has declared that he is optimistic about the release of the three French hostages. He affirmed that Michel Seurat had been killed.

Ra'd 'Optimistic' on Hostage Release

NC140737 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] French envoy Dr Razzah Ra'd told the newspaper *AN-NAHAR* that the case of French hostages Marcel Carton, Marcel Fontaine, and Jean-Paul Kauffman will be settled after the French parliamentary elections slated for Sunday. He said that he will return to Beirut after the elections. He added: I am optimistic and we have made significant progress toward the release of the hostages. He further said that he also made some progress regarding the contents of the proposals that he brought with him and that there had been positive changes regarding some clauses in the proposals.

Dr Ra'd said that he would brief President Francois Mitterrand on his mission. He added that his negotiations concerned only Carton, Fontaine, and Kauffman because the parties he contacted have denied that they are behind the kidnapping of the French television crew.

The question now is: If a solution is found, will all the detainees be released, since the Islamic Jihad organization has denied any connection with the kidnapping of the four French journalists? When will the release take place? Before or after Sunday's French parliamentary elections?

'Jihad' Issues Ultimatum

NC140742 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] A foreign news agency in Beirut has received a video tape of the three French nationals who have been held hostage by the Islamic Jihad Organization for approximately a year. The three Frenchmen appealed to their government to ensure their release and convey their greetings to their families. A statement issued by the Islamic Jihad Organization was attached to the video tape. According to this statement, the organization warns the French Government not to procrastinate in meeting its demands because this is the last chance.

'Jihad' Wants Answer, Not Meeting

NC141035 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] In a communique issued today, the Islamic Jihad Organization said it would not meet with any official or unofficial French envoy sent to mediate in the hostage case, until it had received a positive and clear answer to its demands from France.

Seurat Possibly Dead For Months

AU131652 Paris AFP in English 1644 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Paris, March 13 (AFP) — A French hostage whose execution was announced by his captors in Beirut last week may have been dead since December or January, two publications reported here on Thursday. Michel Seurat, was reported last week to have been killed in reprisal for what was thought to have been the execution of one of two pro-Iranians departed by France to Baghdad.

The weekly *L'EXPRESS* said in its current issue that a U.S. intelligence service informed French authorities last February 5 that one of four French hostages being held by the Shi'ite fundamentalist group was dead. *L'EXPRESS* said the French Government believed at the time that the dead hostage was Marcel Carton, one of two French Embassy officials abducted two months before Mr. Seurat and a Jean-Paul Kaufmann, a French journalist. Mr. Carton was known to have been in failing health. "We know now that it was Michel Seurat" the unnamed U.S. intelligence agency was referring to, the weekly said.

The daily *LE MONDE* Thursday quoted French intelligence sources here as saying Mr. Seurat was believed to have been killed last December or January by the Islamic Jihad, which then waited for "an opportune political moment to make its macabre announcement."

French TV Team's Release Nears; Kidnappers Arrested

GF141238 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 13 Mar 86 pp 1, 21

[Al-Siyasah Beirut office dispatch]

[Excerpt] *AL-SIYASAH* has learned from a reliable source in Lebanon that a security organ belonging to one of the Lebanese organizations succeeded recently in arresting the kidnappers of the French television team and that the said organ is currently questioning the kidnappers to reveal the side responsible for the operation. *AL-SIYASAH* has also learned from a senior source that the kidnapped French journalists will be released within the next few hours. The source added that neither Hizballah nor the Islamic Jihad organization are linked with the operation.

New Group Claims Kidnapping

NC141634 Paris AFP in English 1631 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, March 14 (AFP) — A hitherto unknown group calling itself the Organisation of Revolutionary Justice Friday claimed responsibility in [as received] the March 8 kidnapping of a French television crew, enclosing copies of two of the victims' identification papers.

The claim, a type-written statement in Arab [as received] datelined Beirut and delivered to a Western news agency, had at the bottom of the page photocopies of the press card of camera-

man Georges Hansen and of the driver's licence of his assistant, Jean-Louis Normandin. The four members of the French Antenne-2 Network were kidnapped in Moslem West Beirut. The two others are Philippe Rochot and Aurel Cornea.

"We announce the kidnapping of the four French journalists as a warning to the French Government so that the French people become aware and act to stop all France's activity in Lebanon and its political and military activity on the Lebanese scene," the statement said. "Victory to the oppressed," it said.

The team had flown to Beirut following the announcement by the Islamic Jihad Moslem fundamentalist organization that it had killed Michel Seurat, one of four French hostages kidnapped in Beirut almost a year ago. A caller who said he represented the Islamic Jihad claimed the television crew's kidnapping, but the Islamic Jihad later denied it.

Silvestrini Cites 'Favorable Response' to Efforts

NC131900 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Msgr Achille Silvestrini has said that his talks in both Beirut and Damascus drew a favorable response. He made a statement in Bkirki at 1855 today pointing out that Damascus gave the Vatican initiative a positive reception. Silvestrini made these remarks after a meeting with Patriarch Khuraysh, Papal Administrator Ibrahim al-Hilu, and Bishops Jubayr, Harb, Sufayr, Abu Jawdah, Domah, and Al-Khuri.

Silvestrini noted: Following my talks with Lebanese officials, I went to Damascus to relay the results of these discussions to the Syrians, who welcomed the initiative. I met with Khaddam and Al-Shar', and this gave me the opportunity to say that his holiness the pope is following developments in Lebanon closely in order to find solutions to the crisis.

President al-Asad listened carefully to what I had to say, and expressed interest in reaching a settlement. When I returned to Beirut, I briefed Lebanese officials on the efforts made and on possible solutions. I hope that additional work will be done to discover a way of ending the Lebanese people's suffering. Silvestrini added that the Syrian authorities gave him a full account of their views.

Silvestrini will leave for the Vatican via Larnaca tomorrow.

A leading political source has told the Voice of Lebanon that the common denominator in Silvestrini's exchanges was his affirmation that the Vatican will stand by the Christians and will not let them down. The source stated that the Vatican is well-informed regarding the complexities of the Lebanese situation.

Meanwhile, the media have cited a political source as saying that the outcome of Silvestrini's talks will not be disclosed before he returns to the Vatican and delivers a briefing to the pope.

Leaves for Vatican

NC140745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Papal envoy Msgr Achille Silvestrini left Bkirki for the Vatican via Larnaca at 0715 this morning aboard a Lebanese Army helicopter. He is accompanied by Papal Nuncio Luciano Angeloni who will return to Beirut from Larnaca later today.

The papal envoy was seen off by Cardinal Khuraysh; Apostolic Administrator Bishop Ibrahim al-Hilu; Bishops Roland Abu Jawdah and Nasrallah Sufayr; Ambassador Badran, who represented the Foreign Ministry; Abbot Bulus Nu'man; and priests from the patriarchate.

Syria Reportedly Holding Tanks Sent to Junblatt

NC131322 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1258 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 13 Mar (MENA) — The Paris-based Arab weekly *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* reveals that the Syrian authorities seized a shipment of Soviet-made tanks sent to Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party in Lebanon, when the shipment arrived in the port of Latakia. The magazine adds that it was scheduled to reach Beirut before 16 March so that the tanks could be used in the military parade that Junblatt plans for the anniversary of the martyrdom of his father, Kamal Junblatt.

In its Friday issue, the magazine says that efforts are underway to secure the release of the tanks so that they can be used in the parade. The magazine believes that they will only be released after the parade.

Junblatt Leaves Damascus To Attend Palme's Funeral

NC131428 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, left Damascus for Stockholm at noon today. Junblatt will attend the funeral of the Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was assassinated on 28 February.

Expanded Strike Force Operational Next Week

NC140708 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The National Action Committee of the City of Beirut has decided to close down party offices on which no agreement has been reached and to reduce the military presence. The committee announced that it has begun to organize a joint strike force comprising all nationalist parties. This force will start work next week. The committee also ordered bakery owners to observe the committee's price list or they will be prosecuted. It made clear that it was resolved to implement its decisions.

Meanwhile, the Joint Security Coordination Committee of West Beirut met at the special force headquarters on Verdun Street yesterday afternoon. It discussed the situation in West Beirut and the ways to ensure complete security, particularly now that strike

force has been expanded to include more parties. The committee expressed its satisfaction with the decisions adopted by the National Action Committee during its meeting the day before.

Palestinian, Amal Gunmen Clash Near Sabra Camp

NC131457 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1445 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] There was some isolated fighting a short while ago between Palestinian gunmen and members of the Amal Movement near the Sabria camp. The clash was contained after the Internal Security Forces intervened.

Army Positions Under 'Nationalist' Fire

NC140815 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0715 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The security situation deteriorated along the Al-Duwwar-Al-'Ayrun combat line at 0845 today. Our correspondent in upper al-Matn reports that Army positions in Al-Duwwar and the surrounding hills are coming under intense machinegun and mortar fire from nationalist areas in Al-'Ayrun. An artillery shell fell at 0715 today, followed by a second one at 0800. Army positions in 'Ayn al-Sayyidah, Al-Qammatiyah, and Suq al-Gharb are right now under machinegun fire from positions manned by Junblatt men.

6th Brigade Group Ambushed; Money Stolen

NC140942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0815 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Internal security force sources report that 6th Brigade troops riding in a jeep and a pick-up truck were ambushed near the Ayyub station at the patriarchate next to the Holiday Inn. The men were transporting the sum of 30 million lira in a red bag and a cardboard box. Reports indicate that the shots were fired from a Mercedes. Corporal Muhammad Hasan Farahat and Private 'Ali 'Abdallah were killed. One of the parcels containing the money is now missing.

Immediately following the incident, 6th Brigade and Amal gunmen deployed in the area, and brigade officers arrived to investigate.

Reports also indicate that the 6th Brigade and Amal quarreled with the strike force, which attempted to interfere. Gunshots were reported in the vicinity of the Ayyub station, where the incident took place, and in the Al-Hamra' area.

Discussions on Interest Offices With Poland Resume

TA140945 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Mar 86 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] An Israeli official will go to Warsaw in the next few days to conclude the deliberations with the Polish Government on the opening of "interest offices" in both countries. The official is scheduled to discuss technical and administrative details regarding the opening of the Israeli representation in Warsaw according to the agreement in principle reached a few months ago. An agreement was reached in previous deliberations to the effect that the representations in Warsaw and Tel Aviv would include staffs of several people. The Israeli representation in Warsaw is scheduled to be headed by a diplomat, Mordekhay Paltzur.

It is estimated in Jerusalem that it will be possible to open the representations within a few months. Talks dealing with their opening have resumed in the last few days, after an interval of several months during which Israel waited for the approval of the designated diplomat by Warsaw. The question of the opening of representations came up in meetings held by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir with Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Olszowski in New York last September. Later, contacts were held through the two embassies in Bonn, but they were adjourned when tehre was a change of Polish minister of foreign affairs.

Peres Comments on Domestic Issues, Peace Process

TA131853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] What is Prime Minister Shim'on Peres saying about the events at the Herut convention? A public figure must restrain himself and not let himself be drawn into provocations. Today the prime minister visited Haifa. He refused to comment on the Herut convention's implications for the Labor Party. Here is a report by our correspondent Haviva Roger.

[Begin recording] [Roger] I will not comment on the events at the Herut convention, the prime minister announced the minute he entered the room. Afterward he added:

[Peres] I think the test of a public figure, a political figure, is that in a provocative atmosphere, he is not drawn into those provocations. We must bear in mind that the nation really does take notice of all the voices, and especially the nation's youth. The political process is not just one of representation, it is also educational. Of all the rules of democracy, the most important one is the restrictions that a political figure must set for himself.

[Roger] Regarding the rotation, he emphasized that if the agreements are honored, if the economy is restored without destroying the Histadrut and agriculture, and if the peace process is permitted to continue, there will be a rotation. As for the peace process, Mr Peres said he supports interim arrangements, such as autonomy and devolution. He said that 'Arafat has already been in the PLO leadership for 20 years and no change in his position can be seen.

[Peres] I am of the firm opinion that the PLO's main problem lies in the fact that it has become an organization that puts itself before an actual solution to the problem, and it, in fact, prefers words to territory.

[Roger] Yusayn took a first step forward in his speech, Peres said. He put a question before the Palestinians.

[Peres] Anybody who has been carfully following Husayn's words can see that he is saying that the PLO is needed but that it needs a different leadership. I do not want to give him advice, but neither am I unaware of the difficulties that have come up. These, too, must be taken into account. I am convinced that there are ways to overcome these difficulties and I hope that we will be able to do so.

[Roger] Regarding the peace initiatives, Mr Peres said: I put a few peace initiatives before envoy Murphy and they were received sympathetically. They concern continuation of the peace process, and from my viewpoint are neither caprices nor mere slogans. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1800 GMT on 13 March carries a similar report on Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to Haifa, but adds recorded remarks by Peres on a possible meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Peres says: "I was all the time in favor of a meeting between President Mubarak and myself; I didn't change my mind. I am not overanxious; neither am I impatient. I do believe there is a need for the leaders of the countries to meet occasionally, to talk over matters, to discuss the future, to look for ways to brdge over the gaps of disagreements that exist between our two countries. And, the moment that President Mubarak will be willing and ready to meet, I shall do that gladly. I don't feel any need to put preconditions."]

Peres Leaves For Stockholm To Attend Palme Funeral

TA140916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] This morning Prime Minister Shim'on Peres flew to Stockholm aboard an El Al plane to attend the funeral of Prime Minister Olof Palme who was murdered by a terrorist. No special ceremony took place at Ben-Gurion Airport. The prime minister will return to Israel on Sunday morning. During his stay in the Swedish capital, Mr Peres will confer with many personages who will be there for Palme's funeral.

Finland's Vayrynen Arrives, Comments on Relations

TA131914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] About an hour ago the Finnish minister of foreign affairs arrived in Israel for the first such visit since Israel was established. Foreign Affairs Edirot Gid'on Remez was among the correspondents who waited for the visiting minister at the airport. Here is his report:

[Begin recording] [Remez] If you think that 38 is a young age for a foreign minister, consider that Paavo Vayrynen has been serving as Finland's minister of foreign affairs for 10 years. He even hosted Moshe Dayan as foreign minister in Helsinki in 1976, a visit he is only now reciprocating. Indeed, the visitor said, the friendly relations between out two countries have not been sufficiently expressed by mutual visits.

[Vayrynen — in English] We have really traditionally friendly, good relations between our two countries, but maybe we have not enough contacts between our countries and that's why I think it is important that I have this possibility to have discussions with the rpresentatives of the Government of Israel.

[Remez — translates above and continues] Both he and the man who received him, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, agree in principle that UNIFIL must be discussed, since Israel and Finland disagree about the way it functions, although the great crisis of the kidnapping of Finnish UNIFIL soldiers by the Army of Southern Lebanon has almost been forgotten. Before his departure for Israel, the Finnish minister told a paper in his country that the visit could be interpreted as a certain improvement in Finland's attitude toward Israel's position, but in reply to a quesIon by me he explained that there is no change in Finland's neutral position. He also said that Finland neither can nor desires to play a role in advancing relations between Israeg and the Soviet Union unless it is asked to do so, and there is not much chance of this.

I was surprised by the great number of foreign correspondents who came to the airport to receive the Finnish minister, until it became obvious that they were not interested in questioning him but wanted to question Minister Shamir. From Shamir they only managed to hear that it is still too soon to speak about the effect of the latest Herut Movement convention, but the rotation will continue as planned. [end recording]

Tabah Talks With Egypt End; Tamir Comments

TA131657 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1600 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Back]

[Excerpts] A short while ago, the sixth round of talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on the Tabah issue and normalization ended at the Dan Accadia Hotel in Herzliyya. At the conclusion of the talks, Avraham Tamir, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told us:

[Begin recording] [Tamir] I believe we will complete our work by the end of the month. Two alternatives are possible: One is that we will complete all the work, including the arbitral compromise — and at the moment one cannot assess that we will be unable to do this; it is definitely possible. The other possibility is that one or two points will be raised before the political echelon, which means that as far as we are concerned our discussions at this level have been exhausted, and there is no point in continuing. This is how I have consistently portrayed the situation from the beginning.

[Beck] Is it possible that you will succeed in concluding matters as early as next week in Cairo?

[Tamir] I do not know. I do not think so because even if we conclude the main issues that have to be finalized, then certainly some time is necessary for what is called drafting on some points. [end recording]

This morning the two committees — the arbitration committee and the normalization committee — convened in separate meetings. The discussion on the many details of the arbitral compromise is almost at its final stage, at least as far as the delegations' authority is concerned. It is widely believed that perhaps during the next round of talks next week in Cairo, the remaining procedural disagreements will be ironed out, so that the complete arbitral compromise or the remaining substantive points of dispute can be brought before the political echelon for a decision. In the event that these details are not worked out in Cairo, another meeting will be held in Israel, so that the matters can be brought to the political level for a decision by or before the end of the current month.

As for bilateral relations, the Israeli representatives informed the Egyptian delegation of Israel's agreement to allow the Coptic College in Jerusalem to be enlarged, and of the decision to transfer the question of Bi'r al-Sultan to a ministerial committee, which will work out proposals to solve the dispute. The Egyptians expressed satisfaction over this. On another matter, the Egyptians promised that bilateral trade would be conducted in the same way that Egypt conducts trade with other countries in the world.

It should also be noted that the Egyptian military representative, General Faruq Labib, met today with the mother of one of the Israeli MIA's, Betty Kohen, who emerged from the meeting encouraged. No more details have been learned. As reported, next week another round of talks will be held in Cairo.

Egyptian Delegation Leaves

TA140919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] The Tabah talks will resume in Cairo toward the end of next week. This was announced by the representatives to the talks from the Prime Minister's Office. At nearly midnight the Egyptian delegation, led by Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, left Israel at the end of the round of talks in Herzliyya.

Egyptian Cotton Import Deal Seen as 'Breakthrough'

TA130903 Jerusalem The JERUSALEM POST in English
13 Mar 86 p 2

[Text] The first agreement for the direct import of cotton fibre from Egypt to Israel was signed recently between the Egypt Government and an Elati businessman, Muqi Meltzer.

Meltzer said that after six months of negotiations the Egyptian Government had granted all the necessary permits for the $1.5 million transaction. Describing the deal as "experimental," he

added that it could pave the way for cotton fibre imports of $10m. a year.

In the past, Israel imported Egyptian cotton fibre through third parties in Europe, which made it more expensive. Israeli political circles saw the deal as a breakthrough.

Noting the "large" number of visitors to the Israeli pavilion at the current international trade fair in Cairo, these sources said they hoped that further deals with Egypt would follow. Israeli Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson said that 4,000 people had visited the pavilion on its first day.

'Dissatisfaction' on Egypt's Ra's al-Burqa' Report

TA140750 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Mar 86 pp 1, 20

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Benny Morris]

[Excerpts] The Foreign Ministry yesterday expressed official dissatisfaction with the material Egypt submitted to Israel on Wednesday on the Ra's al-Burqa' massacre and its aftermath.

Foreign Ministry sources yesterday revealed that a fortnight ago at the last round of talks Egypt had handed the Israelis what they said was a "report" on the October 1985 massacre — which consisted of newspaper cuttings dealing with the massacre and the trial. Israel handed back the "report" and vigorously complained to Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid about the incident.

Wednesday's handover of material to Israel appears to have been the Egyptian response to the complaint.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "This is not the Ra's al-Burqa' report Israel has been requesting" since the killing last October of seven Israeli tourists on a Sinai beach by an Egyptian security man. The material, handed over by the head of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's consular department to the Israeli Embassy in Cairo, is now being studied and translated from Arabic into Hebrew.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the material consists of transcripts of the trial and the judgment handed down on Sulayman Khatir, the security man convicted last December of the massacre.

Israel has consistently demanded detailed explanations of why other soldiers in Khatir's unit did not stop him from killing the Israelis or detain his afterwards. Israel has also demanded an explanation as to why no medical aid was given to the casualties or why Israelis at the scene were prevented from helping the victims. These questions, said the Foreign Ministry spokesman, do not appear to be appropriately covered, or covered at all in the material so far submitted.

The spokesman declined to say whether Israel would demand further clarifications from Egypt. Israeli officials, however, have for months said that Israel could not realistically hope to receive a full-fledged report from Egypt about the massacre, as that would be regarded by the Egyptians as self-abasement.

The officials explained that Egypt's leaders, highly embarrassed by the incident, know that the behaviour of Khatir's fellow soldiers, and of the whole Egyptian military structure along the Gulf of Elat in the hours after the massacre, was highly inefficient and insensitive. Given Israel's status as a former enemy and Israel's open society, which would have assured immediate publication of all the details, turning over such documentation would have been inconceivable in terms of Egyptian national pride, said officials.

Shamir on Herut Crisis; No Compromise Foreseen

TA131531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has said that in the past he made too many compromises within the Herut Movement and because of this elements arose and tried to take over the movement by force. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that he said this at a meeting with activists from his camp in Herut after the convention was closed. He said that these elements had not beaten him, and that the convention session was closed because it was impossible to continue without using counterviolence, and he did not want this.

In this context, it has been reported that so far there has been no dialogue among the rival camps in Herut and no compromise can be seen on the horizon regarding the struggles within the party.

Labor Expects 'Radical Changes' in Political Map

TA140745 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Roy Isacowitz]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Labour Party strategists believe that the political map could go through radical changes as a result of the virtual split that appeared in Herut during its convention this week.

Labour is said to have already begun unofficial contacts with other parties with an eye to exploiting the situation. Sources pointed to yesterday's statement by Agudat Yisra'el leader MK [Knesset Member] Avraham Shapira, that a narrow government was preferable to early elections, as an indication of the effect that the Herut crisis could have on the smaller parties.

The political processes which could be influenced by the crisis are the proposed unity between Herut and the Liberal Party, and the previous unwillingness of the religious parties to enter into a narrow government with Labour.

The crisis has also renewed the pressure brought by several of his ministers on Prime Minister Peres to find a way of avoiding rotation. At a meeting of the Labour ministers on Wednesday night, the anti-rotationists argued that it would be irresponsible

to hand over the premiership to Yitzhaq Shamir when he does not have the support of his own party.

Participants said that Peres had reiterated his position that rotation must be implemented if all the other clauses of the coalition agreement were honoured.

Most Labour ministers and MK's yesterday preferred not to comment on the Herut crisis. All gave the impression of business as usual in Labour, which is preparing for its own convention early next month.

Terrorist Squad Exposed; IDF Soldier's Body Found

TA131735 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The security forces have exposed a terrorist squad in the village of Dayr Ballut in the Tulkarm District, whose members are suspected of murdering an IDF soldier, Sergeant David Manos. This has been reported by the IDF spokesman. The terrorists led the investigators to a cave where the soldier's body was found. The squad members, from the Fatah organization, are also suspected of involvement in other attacks, and during their interrogation they reported places where they had hidden weapons. Sgt David Manos had been missing for about 18 months. He was last seen in Haifa at a stop where soldiers wait for lifts, and was on his way to his parents' home. He served in the Air Force and before being kidnapped was completing studies in Haifa. His father complained that the family had been harmed by police publicity that their son, it was claimed, had been seen in the company of underworld figures in Tel Aviv. His commanders said he had been an outstanding soldier. Details about the finding of David Manos' body have been reported by our correspondents Arye Gus, GABI Zohar, and Karmela Menashe.

David Manos' funeral will take place tomorrow at 1230 in the military plot in the Segula cemetery, Petah Tiqva.

UNIFIL Reports Clashes With ASL Troops

TA131118 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Artillery of the Army of Southern Lebanon [ASL] shelled the Shi'ite village of Al-Mansuriyah north of the security zone early this morning. This is reported by our correspondent Hayim Hecht who also notes that several shooting incidents took place this week between ASL and UNIFIL troops. UNIFIL headquarters claims that ASL troops opened fire at positions of the Irish contingent on five occasions. Fire was returned but there were no casualties.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Senegalese Minister 13 March

LD131952 Algiers APS in English 1125 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 13/03/86 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid audienced here Wednesday Medoune Fall Senegalese minister of Armed Forces and special envoy of President Abdou Diouf who handed him a message from the Senegalese head of state.

Medoune Fall arrived Wednesday here. He was greeted at his arrival by Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani minister of state to the Presidency.

Statement Issued on YAR Delegation's Visit

LD132033 Algiers APS in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Algiers, 13 Mar (APS) — A press statement has been issued at the end of the official 11-13 March visit to Algeria by a delegation of the YAR General People's Congress, headed by ('Abd al-Salam al-'Ani), assistant secretary of the Permanent Committee of the General People's Congress. The visit took place at the invitation of the FLN, and important talks were held between the two delegations.

In the press statement, the FLN praised the work of the YAR General People's Congress under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress.

In the international field, the two sides reviewed developments of the events in the Arab homeland, and also the imperialist and Zionist challenges facing the Arab nation. They stressed anew their principled and firm position toward supporting all the just causes of the peoples struggling against colonialism, imperialism and Zionism for fulfilling their rights for self-determination and for achieving freedom, independence and economic and social development.

The two sides stressed the importance of consolidating the unity of Palestinian resistance under the leadership of the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO.

The delegation of the YAR General People's Congress showed complete understanding to what was presented by the FLN concerning the efforts exerted by Algeria, headed by brother Chadli Bendjedid, at all levels for the achievement of the unity of the Greater Arab Maghreb. The materialization of this great aspiration will be a principal element in constructing the aspired-for Arab unity, and it is also a successful alternative [as received] and treatment for overcoming all problems, primarily the Western Sahara issue, because this continuing problem is a principal factor in wasting the abilities of the Greater Arab Maghreb.

Out of their faith in the unity of the struggle of the Arab and African peoples against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism and racism, the two sides expressed their solidarity with the just struggle waged by the peoples in these regions, in order to give substance to their rights to self-determination, and to realize freedom and independence for themselves. They pledged to exert efforts to strengthen cooperation between the Arab and African peoples.

The two sides underlined the important role played by the nonaligned movement for forming a New International Economic Order, and in introducing democracy in international relations to guarantee stability, security and world peace.

At the conclusion of these talks, the two delegations voiced satisfaction about the spirit of sincere fraternity that prevailed during the talks, which were marked by an identity of views concerning the varied issues they discussed. This confirms the strength of the fraternal relations linking the two fraternal countries and peoples.

The two sides stressed that they will work for the implementation of the cooperation agreements signed between them on 13 March 1986.

LIBYA

Personal Envoy of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Arrives

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi 13 March

LD131850 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received 'Ali Musallam, personal envoy of King Fahd ibn 'abd al-Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

The personal envoy handed the brother leader of the revolution a message from King Fahd.

The personal envoy arrived in Tripoli this morning and left this afternoon.

Further Reportage on Visit of Sudanese Officials

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Prime Minister

LD131542 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received today at noon Dr Jazuli Daf'allah, the prime minister of the fraternal Sudan, who was accompanied by Major General Uthman 'Abdullah Muhammad, the minister of defense and Brother Ibrahim Taha Ayyub, the minister of foreign affairs. The meeting was attended by the secretary of the General People's Committee.

Dr Jazuli Daf'allah explained to the brother leader of the revolution the developments of the situation in fraternal Sudan and also the developments of the bilateral relations between the Arab people in Libya and Sudan. The Sudanese prime minister also expressed the thanks and appreciations of the Arab people in Sudan for the support given by Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in various fields against the regime of the defunct tyrant Numayri.

Dr Jazuli Daf'allah expressed the thanks of the people in fraternal Sudan for the support given by the Libyan Arab people after the victory of the 6 April Revolution. He also stated that that fraternal Sudan is standing by the Libyan Arab people against the imperialist and Zionist provocations.

The Sudanese prime minister and his entourage visited the place from which brother leader of the revolution addressed his inciting speech to the people in Sudan on the eve of 6 April to pounce on the regime of the severed tail [referring to Numayri] and his devils. They listened to a recording of the leader's speech to the Sudanese people. The prime minister was deeply affected by the recording, and said that he was in prison when it was relayed, and that the rebellious masses in Sudan had responded to the call and incitement of brother leader of the revolution, stormed the Kobar prison, freed him and the rest of the prisoners, and controlled the prison on the following morning, announcing the victory of the popular revolution in Sudan.

Jabir Meets Defense Minister

LD131918 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1842 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Mar (JANA) — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, this evening conferred with Major General 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, Sudanese defense minister.

General Al-Kharrubi Meets Defense Minister

LD131628 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Brigadier General Mustafa al-Kharrubi, the inspector general of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, conferred this morning with Major General Uthman 'Abdullah Muhammad, the Sudanese Minister of Defense.

12 March Working Session Reported

LD131625 Tripoli JANA in English 0851 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 1, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A working session was held yesterday afternoon between Al-Jamahiriyah's secretary of the General People's Committee, Jadallah A. Al-Talhi and the Sudanese prime minister, Dr Jazuli Daf'allah. Also present from the Libyan side were Muhamad 'Abdullah al-Mabruk, secretary of the People's Committee for Public Utilities; Fawzi Al-Shakshuki, secretary of the People's Committee for Planning; Akmil Hasan al-Mansur, secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau, the director of the Administration of Cooperation and Communication in the Arab Homeland in the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and Jum' ah al-Firnazi, [last name as received] secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Khartoum.

Present from the Sudanese side were the defence minister, Brigadier-general Uthman Abdullah Muhammad; the foreign minister, Ibrahim Taha Ayyub; and the Sudanese ambassador to Al-Jamahiriyah, Abdullah Majid B. al-Ahmadi.

13 March Talks Reported

LD131627 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The Libyan Arab-Sudanese talks for developing and consolidating the bilateral relations in all fields in the interest of the two fraternal peoples commenced this morning in Tripoli.

The talks were attended by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning and the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, and from the Sudanese side by the Sudanese minister of foreign affairs and a number of experts and technicians.

JANA Editor Criticizes Egypt's 'Submission' to U.S.

LD131715 Tripoli JANA in English 1406 GMT 13 Mar 86

["JANA's Political Editor Comments on Murphy's Present Round of Visits to M.E." — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 1, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, Richard Murphy, on arriving in the Egyptian capital, said he did not come there to discuss political issues such as Tabah or else [as received], but, he added, he came there to discuss the economic internal situation in Egypt.

Perhaps, no precedent in international relations is recorded of such disregard for the sovereignty and integrity of peoples to such an extent. Nonetheless the capitulationist Egyptian regime has accepted this insult to the amazement of every honest and free people in the world at large.

Had Murphy known that the Egyptian regime still retained some vestiges of integrity and pride, he would not have dared to say such arrogant comments. He would not have said this even when visiting one of the states of his own country, for he knew what sort of reaction he would get.

Murphy was not content with this. He, furthermore, in collaboration with U.S. media, is encouraging the regime of Husni Mubarak to perpetuate a very repressive policy against the Egyptian masses regardless of the economic crisis this regime is facing. In return for U.S. aid to Egypt totalling 265 million dollars to be used as a pressure and blackmail, Murphy brought a list of new orders to be executed by the Egyptian regime that surpass in their arrogance and exploitation those imposed on Khdawi Ismail [as received] which resulted in pawning the whole of Egypt to Britain and eventually to be occupied by it for 75 years until it was kicked out by the giant, Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.

Reagan's new orders to the Egyptian regime concentrate on liquidating the public sector, allowing the exploiters who have benefited from the so-called open-door economic policy to usurp the country's wealth, cancelling the subsidies on consumers' goods such as food and the like and annulling whatever is left of the restrictions and measures that hinder the freedom of U.S. monopolist firms to strengthen their firm hold on the entire Egyptian economy.

Murphy, on top of that, placed pressure on Mubarak to make every endeavour to hold a meeting with the premier of the Zionist enemy to achieve total surrender in coordination with [the] crown of inherited treason in Amman and with the reversionary Palestinian right-wing.

This explains the servile comments made by Mubarak in this regard to confirm that he has accepted all U.S. conditions without reservation. Similarly, Murphy's statements have congratulated the ruling regime in Egypt for suppressing both the Egyptian masses and the security forces. No wonder that terrorist Sharon expressed his delight on the situation in Egypt displaying his gloating over it in the Knesset when he said that he was delighted that the Egyptians were killing each other.

Nevertheless, there are those who would do everything no matter how disgraceful or degrading in order to retain the power they assume. They, its seems, have not learnt the lesson as yet, for so many dictators have been toppled by their angry masses and the United States has done nothing to save them, despite their reason and the great services they have done to it at the expense of their own peoples.

One may feel sorry that Mubarak has not learnt the lesson and has failed to see the unavoidability of the overthrow of his regime such an eventuality even acknowledged by U.S. media.

No one will doubt, excepting Husni Mubarak, that the Egyptian people will say its final say soon and that Reagan's degrading orders will only serve to speed up the outbreak of the glorious and immortal dawn.

MAURITANIA

Further on Joint Commission Session With Tunisia

Ould Taya Receives Caid Essebsi

AB131124 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Colonel Maaouyia Sidi Ahmed Ould Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, received in audience yesterday afternoon Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi. Their discussions centered on the strengthening of bilateral relations of cooperation existing between the two countries.

Agreements Signed; Session Ends

AB131411 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The first session of the grand Mauritania-Tunisia joint commission ended yesterday evening under the joint chairmanship of Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Tunisian foreign affairs minister, Beji Caid Essebsi, in the presence of the Fisheries and Maritime Economy Minister Ethmane Ould Sid Ahmed Yassa, and members of the two delegations.

The closing ceremony was marked by the signing of several agreements covering the economic, cultural, and social fields. After an exchange of speeches by the two foreign ministers, a press release was issued. The release stressed that the two delegations made a thorough review of bilateral and multilateral cooperation and outlined new areas of cooperation in line with the recommendations of their illustrious heads of state. The release also disclosed that the two ministers signed an agreement in the field of maritime transportation, an agreement [words indistinct], an agreement on the promotion and protection of investments, and agreement establishing the modalities for the functioning of the Mauritanian-Tunisian Fishing Company, a program for cultural exchanges for the 1986/88 period, and an exchange program in the field of education.

Essebsi Departs Nouakchott

AB132130 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mr Beji Caid Essebsi, the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs, left Nouakchott this morning. He was seen off by Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the CMSN and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

The Tunisian foreign minister came to participate in the first meeting of the grand joint Mauritania-Tunisia commission for cooperation.

SUDAN

TMC Member Comments on Elections in Southern Areas

JN131740 Khartoum SUNA in English 1729 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, Mar 13 (SUNA) — Member of the Transitional Military Council and the Peoples' Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Gen Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil today said that the Bahr al-Ghazal region of southern Sudan, particularly Al-Buhairat Province, would hinder carrying out elections there.

Khalil, who has returned to Khartoum yesterday after an inspection visit to Bahr al-Ghazal and Equatoria administrative areas, affirmed stability in the south and said that elections could be carried out in all the south except in Bahr al-Ghazal.

The Armed Forces General Command is in continuous direct contact with the troops withdrawn recently from Rumbek Town, Khalil added, saying that he will visit shortly the Upper Nile Administrative Area.

Anya Nya 2 Calls for Establishing Federal System

JN131727 Khartoum SUNA in English 1718 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 13 (SUNA) — The Anya Nya (2) Movement has called for the establishment of a federal system in Sudan.

In a statement released here today the movement pointed out that since its formation in 1975 it has been calling for a united Sudan

and equal distribution of national resources and even development in all regions.

With the presence of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Army (SPLA) leader John Garang or in his absence, the constitutional conference must be held as quickly as possible because Garang does not represent the whole southerners, the statement said.

On the application of the Islamic laws the movement said it contradicts with the spirit of the national reconciliation and poses direct threat to the national unity.

The Anya Nya (2) Movement emerged in 1975 and declared war against the defunct regime of ousted President Numayri, taking southern Sudan as the base for launching the war.

Following the popular uprising in April 1985 the movement stopped fighting against the government and involved itself in armed conflict with the SPLA due to ideological differences.

SPLA Inflicts 'Heavy Casualties' on Army 8 Mar

EA131703 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Reports from Jonglei say that the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of Lion Battalion intercepted a large force of Siwar al-Dhahab's army on 8 March 1986 at Poptak around the Jonglei Canal [joint Sudanese-Egyptian project in southern Sudan]. According to our correspondent, the SPLA forces engaged the enemy force for 9 hours from 0700 till 1600 and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.

KENYA

Striking Students Force University Closure

EA130736 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The Kenyatta University has been closed with immediate effect, and all students at the institution are required to leave the campus before 12 noon today Thursday 13th of March. In a press statement issued last night, the university's vice-chancellor, Professor Peter Gachie, said that the closure of the university has been necessitated by the fact that the students have refused to attend classes despite various instructions and appeals to them to do so. He added that some sections of the student body have also been molesting other students and harassing members of the public. Consequently, the university council has resolved that the institution be closed until further notice.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Reports Kidnap of Army Officer

EA132133 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 3 Mar

[Text] Lieutenant Ahmad Shaykh Hasan Abdilleh, an officer of the Second Brigade of the 26th Division of the forces loyal to dictator General Muhammad Siad Barre, was kidnapped by SNM [Somali National Movement] fighters along the road connecting (Shaykh Modleh) and (Garad Ciis) on the outskirts of Hargeisa city on March 3d. Before he was kidnapped by units of the SNM wing of the Somali opposition forces, Ahmad Shaykh Hasan Abdilleh was the officer commanding a military camp accommodating troops loyal to the Mogadishu clique at (Dacaar Biriq). The officer is now in the hands of the SNM forces in the north of the country.

Radio Halgan: Oppositionists Kill 27 Soldiers

EA132055 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Units from the 15th Gorod Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, wing of the Somali opposition forces attacked a platoon of troops loyal to dictator General Muhammad Siad Barre, who were manning a vital bridge at a place called Control 115 in the vicinity of Beled Weyne, capital of Hiran region [central Somalia] on 23 February 1986. The DFSS fighters killed 27 soldiers of the Mogadishu regime and wounded many others. The DFSS fighters also burned out one land rover fitted with a 106-mm field gun, and one Fiat truck. The DFSS fighters returned safely to their base.

Interior Minister Reiterates Call for Famine Aid

EA131937 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the Supreme National Emergency Committee for the prolonged drought in Somalia, Challe Ahmed Suleiman Abdulle, who also is SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] interior minister, once again repeated his appeal for urgent international assistance to the 18 Somali regions badly hit by the prolonged drought.

The chairman said only the Italian Government has responded to the appeal he made a month ago to all world governments and international organizations to expedite all kinds of assistance to persons dying in Somalia because of the prolonged drought. The chairman said further that unless the world community rushes urgent food and water supplies, medicine, shelter, and facilities to deliver assistance to remote villages in the 18 SDR regions hit by the prolonged drought, the world might witness the biggest famine in world history.

The chairman of the Supreme National Emergency Committee for the prolonged drought concluded by calling on world governments and international relief organizations to rush assistance to save the dying people and their livestock in Somalia.

15 Die as Result of Drought

EA131938 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 13 March 86

[Text] In a press release today the Supreme National Emergency Committee responsible for dealing with the country's prolonged drought said that 15 persons have died during the past week in Senag and eastern regions: [extreme northeastern tip of African Horn] — of Somalia because of lack of food and water. The statement said seven persons had died in (?Solul) village in Ceel Afweeyn District of Senag Region. The other eight died in (Lix Lodir), Dhuudo, and (Dhib Hoyo) villages in Iskushuban and Qardho Districts of eastern region.

Senag and eastern regions are among the 18 regions of the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] badly hit by the prolonged drought, which is placing the lives of people and their livestock in great danger because of lack of food and water.

TANZANIA

Mwinyi Calls for Vigilance Against Smuggling

EA132102 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi today called on people living along Tanzania's borders to desist from the practice of smuggling essential goods for illicit sale in neighbouring countries. Ndugu Mwinyi said that such practices aggravate the burden on the nation as far as scarcity of food and cash crops is concerned. President Mwinyi, who was on a 1-day official visit to Kiminjaro region, was addressing (Sufurio) people in Same District after inspecting their paddy fields, which cover more than 1 thousand hectares.

President Mwinyi said that at present Tanzania was going through a difficult economic period, and it was therefore the duty of every citizen to help the nation to disentangle itself from that situation. The president called on the people living along the

borders to be more vigilant against intrigues and designs by smugglers, who want to weaken the nation by sneaking goods to other countries by illicit means.

Ndugu Mwinyi also commended the people in the areas he visited today for their efforts in helping themselves economically by voluntarily undertaking development tasks. However, he urged the people of Same who live in dry areas to grow drought-resistant crops such as millet instead of corn.

Party Calls for More Aid to Liberation Movements

EA130742 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The Chama Cha Mapinduzi has condemned South Africa's aggression against the independent states of Lesotho, Mozambique, Angola, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. A statement issued by the Department of Political Propaganda and Mass Mobilization of the National Executive Secretariat said that the Central Committee, which met for 2 days, believed that international efforts to pressure the apartheid regime must continue.

The statement added that assistance to the Namibian and South African liberation movements must be intensified so as to expedite the liberation of Southern Africa. The statement said that the Central Committee was encouraged by the South African nationalists who are in the frontline in the fight against apartheid. The statement said that the ANC leadership had created deep awareness among the people who were now facing the racists with courage.

The statement went on to say that assistance to the frontline states was crucial in consolidating their independence and in freeing them from the claws of apartheid.

UGANDA

Pro-Amin Resistance To Continue Fighting

LD131912 Khartoum SUNA in English 1630 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Nairobi, 13 March — The Ugandan National Salvation Front [Uganda National Rescue Front], will continue its armed struggle because the current Ugandan Government failed to solve the country's problems, the UNSF said.

In a press statement released here today the Ugandan National Salvation Front, which is led by General Moses Ali, urged Yoweri Museveni's government to respond to its demands which aims at giving all Ugadans equal chances in administering the country. The Ugandan National Salvation Front called on the government to declare a cease-fire and to be committed to dialogue and negotiations. The Ugandan front in its press statement urged the international community to press Museveni's government in order to accept peace.

CHAD

Rival Leaders Reportedly To Meet in Congo 28 March

AU121711 Paris AFP in English 1706 GMT 12 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Paris, March 12 (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre is to meet his long-time rival Goukouni Queddei in the congolese capital Brazzaville on March 28, sources close to Mr. Goukouni's rebel group said here on Wednesday.

There was no immediate confirmation of the report from the authorities in Ndjamena, the Chadian capital.

Bardai Denies Meeting Planned

AB131940 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 13 Mar 86

["Press release" issued by the Ministry of Information in Bardai on 12 March]

[Text] The Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] strongly denies the false allegations by a certain imperialist press concerning a so-called GUNT report that a meeting will take place shortly in Brazzaville between the comrade president of the Supreme Council of the Revolution and of the GUNT, and the leader of the Ndjamena group.

(?In any case), it is the OAU only which should initiate such a meeting and announce its date and venue. These dilatory maneuvers fall within the acts of sabotage undertaken by French imperialism (?to hamper) the commendable efforts being made by the continental organization to find a peaceful, just, and lasting solution to the Chadian conflict. Such acts of sabotage on the part of France were clearly denounced during the meetins organized in Addis Ababa abd Brazzaville in 1984 and 1985.

The GUNT reiterates its permanent readiness to take part in any roundtable meetings under the OAU's auspices with the view toward a true reconciliation and lasting peace in Chad.

Issued in Bardai on 12 March 1986

[Signed] Ministry of Information

OAU Chief: Meeting Possible in Weeks

AB131648 Paris AFP in French 1426 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Vienna, 13 Mar (AFP) — Senegalese President Abdou Diouf announced in Vienna on Thursday that a meeting could take place "in the forthcoming weeks" between Chadian President Hissein Habre and the leader of the Armed opposition to the Ndjamena regime, Goukouni Oueddei.

Mr Diouf, who is currently in Austria on a 4-day official visit, pointed out that this meeting will take place in his presence in his capacity as chairman of the OAU and in the presence of Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who has been mandated by the OAU summit to take charge of the Chadian dossier. The meeting will take place "in principle in Congo," Mr Diouf pointed out at a news conference.

Minister: Government Ready To Meet

AB132220 Paris AFP in French 1655 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Mar (AFP) — The Chadian authorities are always ready to meet the opponents for "fruitful meetings," it was stated on Thursday in Ndjamena by Mr Mahamat Soumaila, minister of information. When questioned by AFP, the spokesman for the Chadian government neither confirmed nor denied the eventuality of a meeting between Mr Hissein Habre and Mr Goukouni Oueddei on 28 March in Brazzaville (Congo). The planned meeting, which was announced by a source close to the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] (Chadian armed opposition group), was officially denied by the above minister. The current OAU chairman, Mr Abdou Diouf (Senegal), said in Vienna on Thursday that a meeting between President Habre and the GUNT leader was to be held "in the coming weeks," "in principle, in Congo."

Mr Soumaila emphasized that Chad has always been in favor of dialogue with the opposition. "We have made many arrangements in this connection, some have been fruitful, as was the case of those made in Libreville (Gabon), but we have also taken part in some meetings which were not, as in Addis Ababa and Brazzaville," he said. "Our stand is to do everything possible for dialogue on a sound basis with the opponents," the Chadian minister concluded.

It has also been learned from concordant sources in Ndjamena that an envoy of the Peoples Republic of Congo, whose president, Mr Denis Sassou-Nguesso, has been mandated by the OAU Executive Bureau to search for solutions to the Chadian crisis, is presently in Ndjamena.

CAPE VERDE

Mauritania's Ould Taya Arrives for Visit

AB131905 Paris AFP in French 1814 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Praia, 13 Mar (AFP) — Mauritania head of state Colonel Maaouyia Sid 'Ahmed Ould Taya arrived in Praia on Thursday for a 3-day official visit to Cape Verde. He was welcome at the foot of the ramp by Cape Verdian head of state Aristides Pareira with whom were members of the cabinet and the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC, sole party) as well as members of the diplomatic corps. The Mauritanian president, who did not make any statement, was warmly cheered by the people of Praia along the route from the airport to his official residence.

The Mauritanian president is to leave for home on Sunday after signing a joint communique and a meeting with newsmen.

LIBERIA

United People's Party Resumes Political Activities

AB132200 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Another banned organization under the former military government, the United People's Party, UPP, has announced the resumption of its political activities. Taking the decision at a press conference in Monrovia today, the acting chairman of the UPP, Mr Wesley M. Johnson, said now that the government has been constituted to a civilian rule, the party was resuming its political activities under the constitution which guarantees the fundamental rights of the people, including the right of free association. He said UPP has no doubt that those Liberian citizens who have vowed to uphold and protect these rights will do so without reservation.

Mr Johnson noted that the action by the party was taken under the protection of the organic law of the land. He said the silence they have maintained since the banning of the party was predicated upon the conviction that the UPP should do everything possible to maintain peace and stability in the country, even though the exclusion of the major political groupings such as the UPP from the political process violated the franchise of a large number of Liberian citizen. Meanwhile, there has been no reaction from the elections commission.

Independent Newspapers Resume Publication

AB131153 Paris AFP in English 1134 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Monrovia, March 13 (AFP) — Four independent Liberian newspapers were back on sale again Thursday [13 March] after a three-day news blackout in protest of what they called an unfavorable atmosphere of press freedom in the country.

The blackout followed an alleged arson attack last week on the offices of the *DAILY OBSERVER* newspaper, just after it resumed publication after a year-long closure by the government.

Last Wednesday, the independent *FOOTPRINTS* newspaper ceased publication after its printers said they were ending their contract because of anonymous threats against them.

State Witness Says Sierra Leone Backed Coup Plot

AB141144 Paris AFP in English 1136 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 14 (AFP) — The government of neighbouring Sierra Leone "fully backed" the attempted coup against Liberian leader Samuel Doe last October, the treason trial of three Liberians allegedly involved was told here Thursday.

Lawrence Wills, the first state witness in the trial of James Holder, Anthony Macquee and Robert Philips, said that coup leader Thomas Quiwonkpa had told the plotters last August that then Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens was to give each of them 10,000 dollars, plus arms and men to overthrow President Doe.

Mr. Wills, who had treason charges against him dropped last month, said Mr. Stevens, who then had only four months before handing over the presidency to Major-General Joseph Momoh, promised to "turn everything over to his successor."

He said General Momoh originally hesitated to assist, saying it was against the Mano River Union Agreement linking Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, but later agreed to provide training facilities at a military camp in Sierra Leone.

Mr. Wills said he was recruited in Lagos while on a business trip by former Liberian Foreign Minister Henry Fahnbulleh, and went to Sierra Leone with two Liberians, former Liberia electricity corporation managing director Harry Yuan and former editor-in-chief of the government-owned *NEW LIBERIAN* newspaper, Tom Kamara.

Mr. Wills said that when he arrived at Camp Sia in Sierra Leone he met General Quiwonkpa, a former Liberian Armed Forces chief, and Majors Emmanuel Dennis and Joseph Biah, who gave him details of the plot and showed him a photograph of the Executive Mansion in Monrovia, the official residence of President Doe.

He said he was told that the photograph was sent by James Holder, the president of the banned Liberia Business Caucus who was to provide transportation from the Sierra Leone border to Monrovia.

Mr. Wills said that if the coup had succeed, General Quiwonkpa was to become head of state, Major Dennis his deputy, Major Biah chief of staff and Lieutenant Coper Teah commander of the Executive Mansion Guard.

Mr. Wills said former Army Major Anthony Macquee was offered the post of mayor of Monrovia while he himself was given the job of chairman of the Counter-Intelligence Agency.

General Quiwonkpa was killed in the attempted coup, which was put down by loyalist troops after several hours of fighting.

The trial was continuing Friday.

NIGERIA

Government Recalls Ambassador to Manila for Talks

AB140745 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Nigerian students who occupied the country's embassy in Manila, the Philippines, on the 9th of this month, have vacated the building. This followed an agreement reached between the students and the Nigerian ambassador to that country.

In a statement in Lagos yesterday, the Federal Military Government said that the government of the Philippines had a responsibility under the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations to protect the embassy, and wondered why it did not do so after repeated appeals from the Nigerian Government. It made it clear that the agreement between the ambassador and the students was unauthorized.

According to the statement, the government cannot agree to a situation where private students, whose sponsors may or may not have lodged money with Nigerian banks can, without the usual Central Bank clearance, transfer currency to the embassy in Manila. To agree to this would be to open the flood gates to similar demands from the large number of private Nigerian students throughout the world.

The Federal Military Government therefore disowns the agreement and has directed the ambassador to return home for indefinite consultations. A senior officer from the Ministry of External Affairs will be sent to the embassy to takeover (?public) affairs pending further directives.

Students Vacate Embassy

AB132223 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2200 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Nigerian students who occupied the country's embassy in Manila, Philippines, since the 9th of this month, today evacuated the building. This followed an agreement reached between the students and the Nigerian ambassador to the Philippines. In a statement in Lagos this evening, the Federal Military Government said that the Government of the Philippines had the responsibility under the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations to protect the embassy, and wondered why it did not do so after repeated appeals from the Nigerian Government.

Students Urged To Be 'Realistic'

AB131250 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Answering questions from [words indistinct] on the occupation of the country's embassy in Manila by some Nigerian students in the Philippines, the chief of General Staff said the government was determined to resolve the issue amicably. He, however, appealed to the students to be more realistic in their approach to solving problems.

ANC's Tambo Concludes Visit, Departs for Sweden

AB132156 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the African National Congress, ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, leaves Lagos tonight for Sweden after a 5-day visit to Nigeria. During the visit, Mr Tambo met with President Ibrahim Babangida, the minister of defense, Major General Domkat Bali, and that of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi. He also held discussions with the boards of the National Committee Against Apartheid, and the Southern Africa Relief Fund. At a news conference earlier today, Mr Tambo expressed gratitude to Nigerians for their continued support for the liberation struggle. He, however, regretted that his delegation was unable to go round the country to express gratitude to the people.

[Begin Tambo recording] We are able to see in this enthusiastic support, this deepseated support, the support of the Nigerian people as a whole. It is regrettable because we think it would have been such a lovely experience to travel around. [passage indistinct] It is an occasion to make reference to the Southern Africa Relief Fund. In the course of these discussions, it has been observed that this fund provided an opportunity for every Nigerian, by putting in half a dollar, half a naira, anything, into the fund, to be actually participating in the struggle of the people of southern Africa as a whole [wprds indistinct]. It is politically important as a mobilizer of the willingness of millions of the people, and this could extend from the youth, from the youngest to the oldest. (?It has happened not too often). And we get the feeling in southern Africa that some 98 million Nigerian people — and each one of them — can help. And we think that deepens the support which this country is giving to our struggle in that region. And this of course then finds expression in the kind of inspiration (?we) derive from political leaders, officials, and so generally, the people who have been with us, journalists. [End recording]

MALAWI

Banda Praises Lifting of RSA Emergency

MB111726 Dakar PANA in English 1647 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Zomba (Malawi), 11 March (MANA/PANA) — Malawi Life President Kamuzu Banda today expressed the hope that the lifting of the state of emergency in South Africa will lead to the easing of tension in that country.

The Malawi president said this before he officially opened this year's budget meeting of parliament in Zomba, the former colonial capital.

Telling the house that he was very happy that South African President P.W. Botha had lifted the state of emergency, President Banda disclosed that he had received a personal letter from him on the ending of the state of emergency in South Africa.

I was very glad to receive a personal letter from the president of the republic in which he stated that he was going to lift the state of emergency, the Malawi leader said, adding that he hoped this would lead to peaceful co-existence in the country.

He said: Just like we are enjoying peace and calm and living in harmony in this country, we wish all the people everywhere in the world, and particularly our neighbours, to live together in peace and harmony.

On transportation, President Banda said in parliament landlocked Malawi was still facing problems. What is even worse is that the ports near our borders are out of bounds because of circumstances beyond our control, he said.

He added that this situation had forced Malawi to re-route her external trade through South Africa's Durban port and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania instead of the Mozambican ports of Beira and Nacala.

MOZAMBIQUE

U.S.'s Wisner Arrives for Talks 11 Mar

MB111702 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1500 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Frank Wisner, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, arrived in Maputo today for talks with Mozambican authorities on bilateral and regional issues. Speaking to newsmen at Mavalane Airport, Frank Wisner said that he was going to discuss with Mozambican authorities the most recent events and [word indistinct] advances on the road for peace in Angola and Namibia.

To a question on the recent promise by President Reagan to finance UNITA, Frank Wisner limited himself to saying: We want peace in Angola and Namibia. With regard to Mozambique, Frank Wisner underlined the development of relations between Mozambique and the United States in the last 4 years, a reason why, he said, we have a lot to talk about. We are jointly going to examine what to do for peace and prosperity in this country, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs noted. Frank Wisner revealed that he would leave Maputo for South Africa tomorrow. He thinks that he will also visit Botswana before returning to the United States via Portugal. It will be recalled that before coming to Maputo, Frank Wisner was in Harare and Lusaka.

Communique With Cape Verde Denounces U.S. Policy

MB140719 Dakar PANA in English 1131 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Maputo, 11 March (AIM/PANA) — Presidents Samora Machel of Mozambique and Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde today condemned the policy of the United States Administration towards Angola.

In a joint communique issued at the end of Mr Pereira's three-day visit to Mozambique, the two presidents denounced the recent official reception given to Jonas Savimbi, leader of the Angolan counter-revolutionary group, UNITA, in Washington and the decision to finance UNITA's activities.

They described this as "an attack against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola", and noted that the U.S. position was in sharp contrast to that taken by the last summit of the Organisation of African Unity.

This condemnation of American policy comes the day before U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Frank Wisner, is due to arrive in Maputo for talks with the Mozambican authorities.

The two presidents also restated their "firm rejection" of any linkage between Namibian independence and the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

The communique said that President Pereira "reiterated his condemnation of the non-observance of the Nkomati Accord by South Africa." Pretoria's failure to honour the 1984 nonaggression agreement with Mozambique "proves once more that destabilisation in southern Africa is entirely the responsibility of the Pretoria regime."

The communique describes the bandits of the "Mozambique National Resistance" (MNR) as "weapons in the campaign of political economic and social destabilisation waged by the Pretoria regime against Mozambique."

The two presidents also "congratulated the liberation movements, the ANC and SWAPO, and the South African democratic forces who have stepped up, on all fronts, the struggle for the overthrow of apartheid and for the end of colonialism in Namibia."

They pledged once more their support for the resolutions of the Frontline States, the OAU and the United Nations on sanctions against South Africa.

President Machel, says the communique, praised the efforts made by Cape Verde in the search for a negotiated solution to

the southern African conflict. He praised Mr Pereira's current tour of the Frontline States as "a real mission of peace and of solidarity with the struggling peoples of the region."

Mr Pereira and his delegation have now left Maputo for Angola, the next stage on their southern African visit.

Refugees in Mutarara District Worsen 'Food Crisis'

MB081401 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 8 Mar 86

[Text] The food crisis in Mutarara District in Mozambique's northwestern Tete Province is worsening. The latest report from the country's natural disasters office says Mutarara is facing ever increasing food and clothing shortages as more and more uprooted families are pouring into the district.

The displaced people are fleeing from South Africa's MNR terrorist group in parts of neighboring Manica, Sofala, and Zambezia Provinces. The report says the natural disasters office has been forced to divert 400 tons of maize from Sofala Province to Mutarara in an attempt to improve the situation. This move has only brought slight relief to the affected people.

In the area of Chinde port in Zambezia Province, there are 30,000 displaced people who have arrived from Marromeu, a town in northern Sofala which has been the scene of heavy fighting between Mozambican and Zimbabwean forces and MNR bandits. This has meant that the natural disasters office has had to dispatch "50 tons of goods by boat to Chinde."

Tens of thousands of people have also been pouring into southern Inhambane Province from Gaza Province, fleeing MNR banditry. The report says the displaced people have caused further shortages in the Panda District of Inhamabane.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Says Criticisms 'Not Actually' Crocker's

MB140552 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Alleged criticisms by the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, that the South African Government talks with interest groups on constitutional development were a sham have been rebutted by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha in Cape Town.

Mr Botha said after his talks with Dr Crocker's deputy, Mr Frank Wisner, yesterday that he understood that Dr Crocker had not actually made the alleged remarks attributed to him but that questions had been put to Dr Crocker by a Congress member Mr Howard Wolpe during a subcommittee meeting and that words had been put into Dr Crocker's mouth.

Le Grange Refuses To Reconsider Bannings

MB131739 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1738 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 13, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, refused to reconsider his decision to ban UDF [United Ddemocratic Front] regional leader, Mr Henry Fazzie, and Mr Mkhuseli Jack, spokesman for the Consumer Boycott Committee, four Progressive Federal Party MP's said today.

In a statement from Mr Roger Hulley, Mr John Malcomess, Mr Errol Moorcroft and Mr Andrew Savage, they said they had seen the minister and asked for the banning orders decision to be reconsidered. They had also appealed to the minister as a matter of urgency to consult with the private sector bodies in the area to obtain their perspectives.

"We stressed the probable negative consequences for Port Elizabeth, the eastern Cape and indeed the whole of South Africa. We told him of the danger of a renewed consumer boycott which could lead to a fresh cycle of violence.

"We can ill afford such a development. We said our opinion was that the consequences of the banning would be more damaging than the consequences of not banning these moderate leaders.

"The minister explained the procedures for arriving at a decision but remained adamant that he would not reconsider his decision," the statement said.

SAIRR: Bannings 'Flagrant Contradiction' to Policy

MB131857 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1831 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 13, SAPA — By banning two prominent black leaders in the eastern Cape this week, the government had dealt a heavy blow to its own stated aim of encouraging genuine negotiation, the South African Institute of Race Relations said in a statement today.

"These bannings are a flagrant contradiction of the government's professed commitment to negotiation with representative black leaders who do not support violence," said the director of the institute, Mr John Kane-Berman.

He pointed out that Mr Mkhuseli Jack was one of the prime movers of the successful consumer boycott in Port Elizabeth last year. When the state of emergency was declared in July he and Mr Henry Fazzie were on the verge of talks with business leaders to try to end the boycott, when they were detained.

On their release, Mr Jack and Mr Fazzie immediately resumed negotiations, he said.

"The Port Elizabeth talks are a unique attempt by whites and more militant blacks to settle their differences across the bargaining table, precisely the process which the government now claims to support.

"They provide encouragement to those who seek a negotiated settlement to racial conflict at a time when the prospects for national negotiations do not seem bright," the statement said.

"The bannings have seriously jeopardised the future of these negotiations, and could well harden black attitudes in other parts of the country," the statement said.

Malan Admits SADF on Port Elizabeth Beaches

MB111921 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Defense Minister Magnus Malan has about-turned to admit that troops were deployed on Port Elizabeth beaches on 22 February to render assistance to police if necessary. Patrick Cull has more.

[Cull] The heavy police-SADF presence followed a statement by the managing director of General Motors, Mr Bob White, that GM would give legal and financial assistance to its black workers who went onto white beaches. Replying to a question from the member of Parliament for Port Elizabeth Central, Mr John Malcomess, General Malan admitted that his original statement on the matter was not quite correct, that the troops had been there at the request of the police, to give assistance if required. All the men in uniform, whether on duty or not, had been armed, he added.

S. Botha Comments on GM Manager's Work Permit

MB111737 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1402 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] House of Assembly, March 11, SAPA — The managing director of General Motors vehicle plant in Port Elizabeth, Mr Bob White, had a temporary work permit which would expire on November 10 this year, the minister of home affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, said today.

Replying to questions from PFP [Progressive Federal Party] and CP [Conservative Party] opposition members, he said he was aware of media reports that Mr White had promised his support to black GM personnel who deliberately contravened regulations at "whites-only" beaches in Port Elizabeth but that members would accept that he could not react to this.

The Department of Home Affairs did not intend to take any action of Mr White's work permit but the necessary steps would be taken in accordance with the Aliens Act if at any time up to November 10 information was received which would make a review necessary.

In response to a question from Mr Frank Le Roux (CP Brakpan) as to whether his department was investigating the media reports on Mr White, the minister said various government departments were making inquiries.

Mr John Malcomess (PFP Port Elizabeth Central) asked whether the minister was aware that GM provided thousands of people with jobs in an area that desperately needed employment and that many members of the CP would lose their jobs if the motor company decided to disinvest in South Africa.

Mr Botha replied Mr Malcomess should take the matter up with the Conservative Party.

Heunis Lists Reforms Expected From Parliament

MB140854 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0849 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Giyani, March 14, SAPA — Reforms implemented in the past few years were proof of government's commitment "to create a fair and just society," the minister of constitutional planning and development, Mr Chris Heunis, said in Giyani today.

Mr Heunis, opening the fifth session of the fourth legislative assembly of Gazankulu at Giyani, said these reforms were proof that government was trying to "remove all forms of social and economic discrimination."

Buttressing the government's commitment, he added, was the belief that the success of reform ultimately depended "on the welfare of, and good relations between, all population groups."

Mr Heunis said further reforms to be effected this session of Parliament included:

— Restoring South African citizenship to blacks who "permanently reside in the Republic of South Africa, but who forfeited their citizenship as a result of the conditions of independence of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei;

— Extension of the powers of self-governing states;

— The involvement of black communities in decision-making;

— Freehold property rights for members of black communities residing permanently in South Africa. "Discussions are also taking place regarding the granting of property rights in the self-governing national states;"

— A uniform identity document for all population groups;

— Legislation authorising the lifting, suspending or amending of unnecessary restrictions of entrepreneurship, particularly with regard to the informal sector; and

— The drafting of legislation "to remove existing influx control measures which apply to South African citizens in the Republic of South Africa."

"These reform steps are, I want to repeat, to a great extent the result of the deliberations of the special cabinet committee, in which the leaders of the self-governing national states also partake," Mr Heunis said.

Le Grange Orders Probe of Kabokweni Shooting

MB131533 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1258 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 13, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, has ordered a thorough investigation of the shooting at the Kabokweni Magistrates Court in Ka-Ngwane in which at least one person died and a number of others were injured.

In a statement issued in Cape Town today, Mr Le Grange said he had instructed the commissioner of police, General Johan Coetzee, "to have all aspects regarding the incident thoroughly investigated and to report to me."

Early reports said scores of people had been injured in the police action. Mr le Grange's statement said one person had died and several others had been injured.

He said he had ordered the investigation after the incident on Tuesday, when SAP members "had to resort to firearms to restore law and order".

Advocate: No Reason for Shooting

MB131543 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1537 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 13, SAPA — A Johannesburg advocate, Mr Lawrence Tonkin, today said there was no apparent justification for the shooting of school children at Kabokweni, near White River, on Tuesday this week.

One school child was killed and earlier reports said up to 80 had been injured.

Mr Tonkin, in a rare action, issued his eyewitness account after gaining bar council permission.

He said: "I feel it my duty to make the following observations:

— The crowd was not uncontrollable,

— I heard no order to disperse whatever,

— I neither saw nor experienced any teargas being fired,

— I saw nothing to justify the view that the shooting was the last resort available to the police.

"It is true that the crowd was very angry. I was frightened and the police also looked frightened to me. There was, however, no apparent justification for the shooting," Mr Tonkin said in his statement.

He had gone to the Kabokweni Magistrates Court — where the shootings took place — to represent Miss Yvonne Mhlanga and others on charges of public violence. He had been instructed by Priscilla Jana and Associates.

Mrs Jana said the release of the statement was an "unprecedented move" and that she also thought it was a necessary "duty" for the eyewitness account to be made public because of "police allegations."

Mr Tonkin said upon his arrival at Kabokweni he was informed by the magistrate that school children had commandeered buses and were on their way to witness the case in which he was to appear.

He saw large numbers of children, some of them "armed with sticks".

"I informed the magistrate that I would speak to these people in an endeavour to maintain peace...and I addressed the people telling them that I was there to represent their friends according to the law...I could see that the crowd was very angry," Mr Tonkin said in the statement.

He said they complained about not being let through a locked gate, that they pressed against a fence which collapsed and were partly trampled down and then surged into the compound.

"I told the police that I intended to address the people again and that they should not shoot."

He spoke from a bench and at one stage was handed a Bible which "I held aloft... saying that it was an instrument of peace... I also held my brief aloft in order to show that this was an instrument of peace. I emphasised to the crowd that they should not give an opportunity to the police to shoot or assault them.

"The crowd screamed agreement with me," he stated.

Mr Tonkin said he was approached by a police captain while he was addressing the crowd who asked that he should draw leaders from them for a discussion. He drew six leaders and got them to stand beside him on the bench, telling the crowd they were going to speak to the captain.

"The leaders and I then... tried to locate the captain. Many of the crowd followed me.

"Whilst I was proceeding towards where the police were situated, I heard shots being fired and this was followed by many other shots. This happened approximately one minute after I commenced towards the police.

"I was at that stage near the police and I cowered, clutching to myself two of the leaders. I was aware of children scrambling away from the police and a surge of bodies away.

"After the shooting the area was littered with groaning pupils and I observed one young man who was either dead or was in extremus being carried to a vehicle.

"I was deeply shocked by what had happened and burst into tears," Mr Tonkin said.

New Defense Forces Helicopter Shown to Press

MB091740 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 9 Mar 86

[Text] The war implements industry has achieved one of its greatest breakthroughs to date with the development of an attack helicopter which is to be manufactured locally. The helicopter, known as the Alpha Xh-I, was developed in great secrecy over the past 5 years, and an experimental model has been tested successfully already. The aeronautics breakthrough was announced by Defense Minister General Magnus Malan in Pretoria.

[Begin video] [Reporter Nico van Burick] The helicopter, which was demonstrated at a news conference for military correspondents, has a high local content, and satisfies all requirements set out by ARMSCOR's [Armaments Development Corporation] technological expansion program. The first step in the development of the helicopter was made in early 1981, when a contract was signed with the armaments industry. In February 1984 the Alpha was shown to a limited defense audience, and on 3 February last year the first successful test flight was made. Although use was made in the experimenal model of existing components, the chairman of ARMSCOR, Commandant Piet Marais, says they are striving for 100 percent local content by the time the helicopter is being manufactured. But even at this early stage a considerable number of its components are designed and manufactured locally.

[Air Force Chief Lieutenant General Dennis Earp] This helicopter has a totally locally designed airframe, systems adaptations, as well as an undermounted cannon and a helmet-mounted visor.

[Burick] The prototype, with its tandemn lay-out in which the gun operator sits in front and the pilot behind him is equipped with a 20-mm cannon mounted under the fusilage. The operator has a helmet-mounted visor, which enables him to aim the cannon at a target by simply looking at the target. Although the Alpha at present is equipped with a cannon which only fires 600 rounds per minute, other weapons systems are also being studied, and at a later stage the helicopter ought also to be equipped with missiles, according to ARMSCOR chairman, Commandant Piet Marais.

For ARMSCOR, the greatest breakthrough is not in the development of the helicopter itself, but in the design ability and systems engineering which have been established. These skills will in future allow the development of other helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft in future, a point which was also emphasized by Gen Earp.

[Earp] I believe one has to keep in mind that there has to be confidence in the Air Force's future. And we have to make provision for this future, and we are not planning just to sit back and do nothing about it.

[Burick] Gen Earp says ARMSCOR has reached a level of efficiency in a short space of time which under normal circumstances would have taken years. Further improvements are being made to the Alpha I, and it is not yet certain when full production will begin. The public will have the opportunity to see this new helicopter at the Aviation Africa exhibition at Rand Airport from 19 March.

Changes Made to Publications Amendment Bill

MB111132 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Several changes have been made to the publications amendment bill which was introduced in Parliament last year. George Mason-Jones has the details.

[Mason-Jones] The controversial provision that any police officer could seize any publication or object for 96 hours if he suspected that it was undesirable has been removed from the bill. The standing committee on home affairs, which has been considering the bill since last year, decided after hearing evidence that the police could take action under existing legislation. The committee dropped the requirement that a person exhibiting a film have a certificate of approval and that a certificate be given to a person hiring a film. Instead, the maker, distributor, and exhibitor of films must be registered, and this person can lose his registration if he is convicted of certain offenses by a court. The containers of the films or videos will also have to bear certain information including the name of the distributor, age restrictions, and the number of the certificate of approval.

Colored Infantry Battalion, Citizen Unit Set Up

MB111120 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0915 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] A second infantry batallion and an infantry citizen force unit for colored service volunteers have been established at (Eersterivier) in the Cape.

Announcing this in Cape Town, the minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, said that the infantry batallion would be known as II SACC [South African Colored Corps] Batallion and the citizen force unit would be called the Cape Regiment. He said the II SACC Batallion would eventually be capable of training an additional 1,000 service volunteers. The Cape Regiment would also have a strength of 1,000 men.

Gen Malan said that an investigation is under way to find a suitable location for the two units.

Union, Church Win Application Against Police

MB110507 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2206 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mabatho, March 10, SAPA — The Metal and Allied Workers Union jointly with the Roman Catholic Church made successful application in the local supreme court before Mr Justice Smith here today restraining the Bophuthatswana police together with members of the South African police from assaulting and harrassing residents of Ga-Rankuwa Township.

The court was shown photographs of men and women with scars and ugly wounds on their backs from assaults meted out to them

by the police. Affidavits from some of the victims were handed in in which they told of groups of about 30 to 50 policemen who ordered them to be naked when assaulting them at the same time with canes, sjamboks, kierries and batons.

Mr Jerry Moropa said he was assaulted to the extent that his kidneys were ruptured and he had to be hospitalised for 19 days.

Mr Samuel Sebitsa, a student, said he was taken from his school by the police who took him to the police station where he was assaulted for not wearing a school uniform. He had refused to sign a statement that he was among youths who had stoned a bus.

In its testimony, the Roman Catholic Church said members of its congregation in Ga-Rankuwa were being accused of being troublemakers and instigators of the youth in the township to cause disorder.

The accusations were being made by the police, who were harrassing members of the church and had assaulted some of its sisterhood, it was said. The police were said to have thrown teargas cannisters at people in a church hall and had assaulted them while assembled peacefully in a church hall.

The Metal and Allied Workers Union testified that its members were employed in the border industries in Rosselyn, which was on the South African side and the workers lived in Bophuthatswana. The union was entitled to recruit workers in South Africa for membership. But union members were being harrassed by the Bophuthatswana authorities, who were against the union. Members found wearing T-shirts of the union were being detained and assaulted. Union officials were also being harrassed.

Mr Justice Smith ordered the Bophuthatswana authorities to stop harrassing and assaulting residents of Ga-Rankuwa — young and old, to stop detaining them without specific charges and to stop interfering with members of the Roman Catholic Church in the township.

3 Port Elizabeth Schools Closed; Situation 'Tense'

MB131328 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Three high schools in Port Elizabeth have been closed. Regional director of education, Bill Starder, says they were closed due to an attempts by parents to question the authority of principals and teachers.

Meanwhile, township residents have spoken out against the move and riot police have come under criticism for closing off the schools from pupils and teachers. As Mike Loewe reports, the situation has been described as tense.

[Loewe] In a statement, regional director Bill Starder said the schools were shut because no one had done any work there since 28 January. However, the Crisis in Education Committee, which commands the support of significant numbers of pupils and teachers in the area, has reacted angrily to the allegations. Meanwhile, feelings about the bannings of two UDF [United Democratic Front] leaders, Mkhuseli Jack and Henry Fazzie, are running high, and UDF leaders say they are battling to tell people to cool it, to give city businessmen a chance to get the bannings rescinded.

DET Suspends Classes in Witbank

MB131021 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1017 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 13, SAPA — The Department of Education and Training (DET) has suspended classes at high schools and higher primary schools in the three black townships of Witbank until the situation at the schools returned to normal.

A DET spokesman said in Pretoria today that because of disruption, classes were suspended on Tuesday at schools in the Witbank townships of Ackerville, Lynnville and KwaGuqha.

He confirmed that the DET regional inspector for Middleburg West region, Dr S.C. Verkuyl, had delivered a message suspending classes to principals of the schools.

Parents in the township had arranged a meeting in the Lynville community hall this evening, and a delegation will be appointed to meet DET officials over the suspension, the spokesman said.

Vigilante Groups To Patrol Bophuthatswana Townships

MB130930 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0926 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 13, SAPA — The situation was reported "back to normal" in the Bophuthatswana townships that have been plagued by violence, a government official said today.

He said children in Mabopane, Winterveld, Ga-Rankuwa and Temba near Hammanskraal were back at school, but warned that the police and the army would not be withdrawn from the townships immediately. This was one of the major demands made by pupils as a condition to return to classes.

The four townships bordering Pretoria have been engulfed in violence for the last four months.

In Ga-Rankuwa legal vigilante groups may start operating as from next week, a council spokesman said today.

He said councillors had been holding meetings in their wards after the President Lucas Mangope requested them to do so. All adult males in the townships were expected to take part in the vigilante groups to stamp out any acts of violence that may erupt, the spokesman said.

Residents in Ga-Rankuwa have criticised the move, saying thugs would take advantage of the situation and endanger the lives of other citizens.

1,000 Pretoria Workers Involved in Strike Actions
MB111116 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1110 GMT 11 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 11, SAPA — Strike action involving about 1000 workers has hit companies in Pretoria in the past few days.

Hundreds of workers have been fired, others face dismissal, many have downed tools, while still others are back at work pending arbitration.

More than 500 striking employees at ASEA Electric in Pretoria West were given an ultimatum today to return to work tomorrow or be dismissed.

Mr Clive Jandrell, managing director of the company, said the workers of the Pretoria West plant were not on an illegal strike. He said the dispute between the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU) and ASEA had been settled.

The 100-strong work force at Isowall in Waltloo is still on strike. The Transvaal secretary of the General and Allied Workers Union, Mr Issy Moto, has stated that attempts to establish a formal relationship with management has been unsuccessful. Workers are demanding that three dismissed colleagues be reinstated and that the wheels for bona fide negotiations be put into gear.

The 400 workers from Maizecor industries in Waltloo, who downed tools last week, are back at work. Negctiations between the Food and Beverages Workers Union and management are, however, continuing. The workers demand that a supervisor who allegedly assaulted a colleague be dismissed.

A spokesman for the union said the supervisor had been temporarily suspended for 14 days, pending arbitration on the matter.

Gypsum Industries, which fired 240 workers following a strike, has hired temporary staff to keep the plant operating. The managing director, Mr Gordon Fraser, said they still had to decide whether to re-hire dismissed workers.

A Building Construction and Allied Workers Union shop steward said a lawyer had been appointed to investigate the matter.

Ackerville Catholic Church Petrol Bombed
MB141113 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1111 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Witbank, March 14, SAPA — The Roman Catholic Church in Ackerville, near Witbank, was petrol bombed last night following a number of threats to the church's pastor, the Rev Anton Maier, the pastor said today.

Mr Maier said the damage was estimated at between R20000 and R30000.

He told SAPA that he woke up shortly after 1am to find the wood and iron church and the adjoining hall in flames. Two teams from the Witbank fire department battled for over an hour to bring the blaze under control.

The fire damaged the front of the hall, a large portion of the roof and completely destroyed the tower, Mr Maier said. He also said that he had been receiving threatening telephone calls "almost every day" during the past few weeks. "The caller threatened my safety often and kept telling me to leave the township," he said.

Mr Maier said he believed that a "very sophisticated petrol bomb caused the fire." Police are investigating.

Mourners Pay Tribute to Slain Bus Driver
MB131621 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1555 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, March 13, SAPA — A crowd of 5000 mourners paid tribute to Mr Jerry Mothibedi, a PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Company] bus driver who was stabbed to death by a crowd in Soweto last week, at a mass fuenral in Soweto today.

Ten political organisations and trade unions were represented at the emotionally charged funeral. Most speakers called for black unity and slammed violence by blacks against blacks.

Mr Mothibedi's colleagues from as far as the east Rand took the day off to brave the hot weather and march about 10km from Mr Mothibedi's home in Naledi to the Avalon cemetery where he was buried. Bus services were suspended in Dobsonville and Soweto today as drivers protested the murder of Mr Mothibedi and thousands of workers were left stranded.

Police kept a low profile although they were seen patrolling the area.

Mr Murphison Morobe, the publicity secretary of the UDF [United Democratic Front] said violence by black against black was a retrogressive step in the fight for black liberation. Mr Morobe said the UDF, through its affiliates, had made attempts to stop these acts but to no avail.

Mr Muntu Myeza, a spokesman for AZAPO [Azanian Peoples Organization], said people had not come to mourn the death of Jerry but to say "job well done. We shall continue where you left off." He urged whites to learn to accept blacks as their fellow countrymen for the benefit of the country. He also urged PUTCO drivers to play a role in the community they were part of.

A message from the bishop of Johannesburg, Rev Desmond Tutu, who sent apologies for not being able to attend, was read at the funeral. It said he rejected all forms of violence in South Africa and sent his condolences to Mr Mothibedi's family.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 13 Mar

MB131921 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1915 GMT 13 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 13, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 7pm unrest situation report:

"At Khuma near Stilfontein, a restriction order, banning the carrying of a coffin on foot, was defied by the mourners and the persons carrying the coffin were shouting inciting slogans. The police fired tearsmoke thereby halting the procession. No injuries were reported and the coffin was further conveyed in a vehicle.

"In other acts of violence in this area, petrol bombs were hurled at police vehicles as well at a policeman's house. In the latter incident the policeman fired shots at his attackers. No injuries were reported, but three men were subsequently arrested.

"In two of the attacks on police vehicles, birdshots were fired by the police and three men who were slightly wounded were placed under guard in hospital.

"At Soweto on the WR [Witwatersrand], there were a number of minor incidents of stonethrowing in which buses were damaged. No reports of injuries were received.

"One youth was wounded and arrested after treatment together with 3 men, when the police fired birdshot in one of two incidents in which police vehicles were stoned in Sebokeng on the west Rand today.

"Two delivery vehicles, one in Mamelodi and the other in Attridgeville near Pretoria, were extensively damaged by arsonists.

"Other minor incidents of stonethrowing occurred at Claremont near Durban and Steytlerville in the South Western districts.

Ends report.

Early 14 Mar

MB140635 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0629 GMT 14 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 14, SAPA — Following is SAP overnight situation report to 8 am today.

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

"At Dennilton in Kwandebele a delivery vehicle was stoned and another petrol-bombed. In the first incident the SAP used tear smoke to disperse the mob.

"At Mamelodi near Pretoria a private vehicle was set on fire and extensively damaged.

"At Sebokeng near Vanderbijlpark an SAP vehicle was stoned. The SAP dispersed the mob with tear smoke. A private vehicle was stoned in another incident.

"At Kagiso near Krugersdorp a policeman's home was set on fire. A woman was injured by the mob. No injuries were reported when the policeman used a 9mm pistol to disperse his attackers.

"At New Brighton near Port Elizabeth the SAP used tear smoke when their vehicles were stoned on two occasions. At Walmer the high school was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At Khuma near Klerksdorp the private home of a policeman was petrol-bombed.

"At Natsilu in KaNgwane the SAP used shotgun fire when a mob stoned a bus. A man was fatally wounded."

End report.

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Mine Statement on Arms

Sheryl Raine reports on page 3 of Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 13 March: "The Chamber of Mines says disciplinary action will be taken against any employee, whether white or black, found carrying unauthorised weapons of any nature on mine property." The statement was in response to a National Union of Mineworkers' (NUM) demand that the mine industry "clarify its position on threats by white mineworkers in Witbank to arm themselves." The statement added: "The chamber expects the NUM to take immediate steps to discourage violence." The chamber also said it deplored comments allegedly made by Arrie Paulus, general secretary of the white Mineworkers' Union, that black unrest was forcing white miners to arm themselves, and asked Paulus to retract the statement attributed to him.

Heunis Rejects Nonracial Society

Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis has "firmly rejected the possibility of a nonracial society in South Africa," *THE STAR* reports on page 4. Speaking in the House of Delegates in reply to a motion for the scrapping of racially separate commercial and residential areas, Heunis on Wednesday said "calls to create a nonracial society were based on a patent misconception of the realities of South Africa. 'Our society is multi-ethnic, multicultural and multiracial. No government can make it non-racial. If we think we can have a people's democracy as in Western Europe, there will be no democracy left.' "

Viljoen Regrets ATASA Stance

Minister of Education and Development Aid Gerrit Viljoen has expressed regret at the decision by the African Teachers' Association of South Africa (ATASA) to withdraw from all Department of Education and Training (DET) committees and councils, says a report on page 17. ATASA had said it would not rejoin the committees until there was " 'genuine power-sharing.' " "Dr Viljoen said it was a pity and a loss to education that the valuable profesional inputs from ATASA would consequently be missing in forums of educational decision-making and policy-shaping in

Government," and added he could " 'see no sound reason' " for the withdrawal.

Steyn Warns of White Backlash

Jan Steyn, executive chairman of the Urban Foundation, told a London audience Wednesday that "South Africa needs massive changes in public policy going well beyond incremental reform if peaceful change is to come about," says a report on page 17. He said rapid change was possible without violent reaction, but warned of a white backlash. " 'If violence in black areas were to subside, the white backlash is containable within reasonable limits. However, no one should underestimate the capacity of this backlash to grow and erupt in the event of sustained high levels of other violence,' " he said.

COSATU Growth Predicted

Michael Chester reports on page 17 that Professor P.L. Bonner of the History Department at the University of Witwatersrand has predicted that the Congress of South African Trade Unions would grow " 'by leaps and bounds' " in the next few months. "It was forming a nationwhide network of affiliate unions and would next turn to construction and farm workers," he said. Addressing an industrial convention in Sandton, he predicted unions would "become even more deeply enmeshed in politics and advised business to follow suit rather than stand back and wait to be forced to do so on local encounters over community issues that led to stayaways consumer boycotts."

CITIZEN Criticizes CBS Decision

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 13 March comments in an editorial on page 6 on the decision not to expell three CBS newsmen from country: "If there were valid grounds for expelling them why rescind the order? If there weren't valid grounds, why issue the order in the first place? Since we must assume the minister was acting in the belief he had good reason to expel the three, he should not have backtracked."

Homeland Housing Shortage

Minister of Education and Development Aid Gerrit Viljoen, in a written statement to Parliament, said "there was an estimated shortage of more than 134,000 homes for blacks in the national states at the end of 1985." The shortage ranged from 2,000 in Gazankulu to between 80,000 and 100,000 in KwaZulu, he said. He added that it "was impossible to say when the shortage would be eliminated."

Whites Shun Mixed Beach

A report on page 12 says the decision to open Amanzimtoti beaches to all races has lead to a rash of cancellations from white holdiay-makers. Apartment and hotel managers "estimated bookings in Amanzimtoti were down an average of 42 percent compared to the same period last year." One manager said 35 people had cancelled their bookings for the Easter holidays and all had given the beach decision as their reason.

SOWETAN on Bannings

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 13 March comments on the banning of community leaders Henry Fazzie and Mkhuseli Jack as "another classic example of the Government shooting itself smartly in the foot." An editorial on page 4 says: "This stock response to ban people who can summon respect from their people, is one of the chief reasons the Government finds it impossible to get together leaders to speak with. It will now be the very brave or the most foolhardy black leader who will speak to the Government."

Identity Document Reform

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 13 March says in an article on page 6 that "the state machinery aimed at abolishing the contentious influx control measures and issuing millions of new identity documents to blacks is in full swing." The Department of Constitutional Development and Planning has already progressed far with a white paper on abolishing the measures. An amended bill on identification will probably be published next week.

CBS Defied Authority

Another editorial on page 10 says the "challenging disregard for a country's court order and the defiance of authority will not be tolerated anywhere in the world." Yet this is exactly what the CBS television team did. How they did it does not matter, but the fact that they did, in spite of the ban, cannot be excused. Minister Stoffel Botha had no choice but to act against the CBS team.

28 Feb-6 Mar 'Apartheid Barometer' Carried

MB020702 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 28 Feb-6 Mar p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpt] *Emergency Detentions 20/2/86 - 27/2/86* (government statistics)

Number detained so far:	7878
Number released:	7600
Number still held:	278
Number detained 1/1 - 20/2/86:	517
Number detained 13/2 - 20/2:	96
Number released 13/2 - 20/2:	39

2,106 children under the age of 16 were detained under the emergency regulations between 21/7/85 and 31/1/86.

Banning of Persons

Number of known banned people 1/1/86:	69
Number banned under Internal Security Act:	10
Number banned under Emergency regulations:	58

Listing of Persons

(A listed person may not be quoted. The penalty is a prison sentence of up to three years).

Number of people listed: 172

(22 are in South African prisons, 40 are resident in South Africa, 89 are living abroad in exile and 21 are deceased).

Banning of Gatherings

Outdoor political meetings: annual ban reimposed on March 22 under the Internal Security Act (ISA).

Indoor political meetings, magisterial bans:

All meetings relating to school or student boycotts banned until 31/3/86 under ISA.

All meetings of UDF [United Democratic Front] and 28 other organisations banned in 18 districts from 29/3/85 - 30/6/85 (ISA).

All meetings re work stoppages or stayaways in 18 districts from 39 [as published]/3 - 30/6/85 (ISA).

All meetings of 64 organisations banned in 30 districts from 30/6 - 31/2/85.

All meetings re work stoppages or stayaways banned throughtout SA until 31/3/86 (ISA).

Indoor political meetings, police bans:

All meetings of 102 organisations in the Western Cape for the duration of the State of Emergency.

Indoor meetings and commemorations, magisterial bans:

Numerous commemorations and meetings called throughout the country for specific purposes banned by local magistrates, under ISA and Emergency regulations.

Three conferences, a concert, a fun run and a carol service were banned during 1985.

Political Trials 1985

Public violence: The DPSC [Detainees Parents Support Committee) estimates that 25,000 people were tried for alleged offences relating to the unrest.

Treason: 56 people in eight different trials faced charges of treason during 1985. Eight people were convicted, 16 acquitted and 32 still face charges of treason in four different trials.

Trials under Internal Security and other acts:

The DPSC recorded a total of 114 trials in this category completed during 1985, involving 2,368 persons, of whom 2,067 were acquitted or had charges dropped against them.

Offence	No of Trials	No of Persons Charged	Acquittal, Charges Dropped
Terrorism	14	35	13
Furthering aims of banned organizations	9	12	nil
Sabotage	1	5	5
Possession of banned articles	24	25	8
Possession of firearms	2	3	nil
Subversion	11	25	9
Breaking banning order	4	4	2
Quoting listed person	2	4	4
Attending unlawful gathering	38	1976	1757
Demonstrations Act contravention	3	271	265
Police Act contravention	1	1	1
Entering township without permit	3	4	3
Refusing to testify	2	3	nil

Unrest Deaths (government statistics)

Number killed 1/9/85 - 24/1/86:	955
Number injured 1/9/85 - 24/1/86:	3,658

According to the South African Institute of Race Relations 1,158 people were killed in the unrest between 1/9/85 and 31/1/86.

According to the minister of law and order, 628 had been killed by Security Forces and 327 "by their own people." Twenty-five Security Force members had been killed and 534 injured in this period, he said. The figures did not include deaths or injuries reported in faction fights in Natal or incidents in the Moutse area. He said damage of R138-million had been caused by rioters. More than 3,400 unrest incidents had been recorded between August 1985 and January 1986. Forty charges relating to allegations of police brutality had been laid against the police, and 141 charges had been laid by detainees against the police, army and railways police, he said.

Guerrilla Attacks (government figures)

Total number of attacks 1976-85: 398

According to the minister of law and order, in 1985 the ANC/SAP [South African Communist Party]/PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress) were responsible for seven landmine explosions, 67 hand grenade blasts, and 37 limpet mine incidents. In the process 201 guerrillas were caught and 79 killed while 85 people were killed by guerrillas.

7-13 Feb 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB081409 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 7-13 Mar 86

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Excerpts] *Emergency Detentions 27/2/86*

Number still held 27/2/86:	332
Number still held 20/2/86:	278

Full lists of new emergency detentions were not released last week. It is believed that about 8,000 people have been detained since the emergency was declared on July 22, 1985.

People Killed and Injured by Police During 1985
(official figures)

Number of people killed by police last year:	763
Number of adults killed:	562
Number of children killed:	201
Number of people shot and wounded:	2571
Number of adults injured:	2000
Number of children injured:	571

The racial breakdown supplied by the minister of law and order showed that 599 of those killed were African, 59 coloured and three white. Of those wounded 1701 were African, 206 coloured, 43 white and one Indian.

The minister said the statistics included those killed and wounded in the unrest last year.

Police Killed in Unrest Last Year
(official statistics)

Number of police killed in unrest:	16
Number of police injured in unrest:	330

Unrest Damage Last Year (government statistics)

Number of government building destroyed or damaged:	1153
Number of private buildings destroyed or damaged:	2787

Emigration/Immigration

Immigration	
January - November 1985:	16,421
January - November 1984:	26,895
Emigration	
January - November 1985:	10,265
January - November 1984:	7,443

1,464 of these emigrants were professional people. Of those who left between January and October, 44 were medical doctors.

Arrests Under Pass Laws 1985

Pass arrests by Development Board officials 1985:	33,427
Arrests by Development Board officals 1984:	75,032

These figures do not take into account pass arrests by police — usually at least double those by Development Board officials.

SADF and SAP Losses

Loss, damage and avoidable expense in the SADF cost more than R32 million in the 1984/5 financial year according to a report presented to Parliament by Dr Joop de Loor, former director general of finance. The biggest single item — R11.5 million — concerned an incident "which occurred on the ground when three aircraft were destroyed and two damaged in a collision". The SAAF classified the accident as "avoidable". Other items included R4.8 million in gifts in armaments to unspecified foreign countries, a gift of three giraffes, free services to various people and countries, theft and fraud.

The police wrote off R2.5 million, most of it in "counter-insurgency" work. They also paid R725,000 in compensation for unlawful arrest and injuries resulting from their action.

SADF Deaths (SWAPO figures)

SWAPO said its forces killed 120 SADF troops and destroyed 20 military trucks, 10 telephone poles, nine electricity pylons and captured arms and other war material during 1985. A SADF spokesman described the claims as "ludicrous".

Complaints Against The SADF

Forty complaints against national servicemen during unrest operations had been investigated by the SADF, the minister of defence, Magnus Malan, said in Parliament. He added that eight cases were found to be legitimate and that "the appropriate legal or disciplinary steps against the offenders had been taken".

Prisoner of Conscience

(Starting this week, this column will regularly highlight the plight of an individual political prisoner currently in a South African cell)

Isu Chiba

Isu Chiba, the Transvaal Indian Congress [TIC] publicity secretary and a United Democratic Front [UDF] activist, has been held under emergency regulations for 228 days.

He was detained on the morning of July 22, the day the emergency came into effect, and has been held without charge ever since. He was one of 50 UDF activists at Johannesburg (Diepkloof) Prison who earlier this week ended a week-long hunger strike in protest against the conditions of their detentions. Chiba, 55, is believed to be the oldest detainee in the Transvaal. Those who have been released describe him as a constant inspiration to younger detainees.

Chiba is no stranger to South Africa's jails. He spent 18 years on Robben Island after being convicted for sabotage in 1965. Before the banning of the ANC in 1960, he played a prominent role in the TIC and the Congress Movement. He went on to become one of the leaders of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation]. He

is married and has five children.

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Meets With Wisner in Harare

MB102029 Harare Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] The visiting American deputy assistant secretary for state for African affairs, Mr Frank Wisner, has held talks with the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, in the capital today. Mr Wisner is on a tour of southern Africa to sound out opinion on the recent announcement by racist South Africa that she is ready to grant Namibia independence as soon as the Cuban troops are withdrawn from Angola.

Present at the talks were the minister of home affairs, Comrade Enos Nkala, the minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, and the American ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr David Miller.

Mr Wisner described the talks as fruitful and frank.

BBC Interviews Released ZAPU MP Vote Moyo

MB130541 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 12 Mar 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Two former senior aides of Zimbabwe's main opposition leader Joshua Nkomo have been released from detention amid what seems to be a thaw in relations between Nkomo and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. They are Lookout Masuku and Vote Moyo. Masuku was arrested 4 years ago after arms caches were found on farms owned by Nkomo's ZAPU party. Moyo was arrested in 1984 when it was alleged that there was a plot to kill Mr Mugabe. Both men were held at Chikurubi maximum security prison. Well, the government has said that Masuku was released on health grounds. On the line to Bulawayo, Julian Marshall asked Vote Moyo if any indication had been given as to why he had been freed.

[Begin recording] [Moyo] None whatsoever. No reasons were given whatsoever. I was told: You are now a free man and I was escorted out of Chikurubi maximum prison [as heard] and taken from Harare to Bulawayo as a free man without any conditions.

[Marshall] And how were you treated during your time in detention?

[Moyo] There was no torture. I was not harassed while I was in detention.

[Marshall] How did you spend your time?

[Moyo] Well, I spent my time reading. You have to do a bit of reading while you are in prison, play a few indoor games here and there such as poker, patience, bridge, and many others, just to keep oneself going, you know.

[Marshall] It was alleged, Mr Moyo, at the time of your arrest that you had been involved in some plot to kill Mr Mugabe. Do you deny that?

[Moyo] That was nonsense, of course. That was really nonsense. It was not (?true) because no charge was formally brought against me. It is not a question of denying. It was never anything like that. It was a mischievous thing for anybody to have suggested that I had attempted the prime minister's life.

[Marshall] Why do you think you were detained in the first place, then?

[Moyo] It was all political. In the first place, as a national organizer of ZAPU, perhaps I only suspect that the idea, the whole idea, was that if a man in my position was detained, it perhaps would have frightened some people in being active in ZAPU.

[Marshall] So what are your feelings now toward the government?

[Moyo] Certainly, I have no animosity against the government. I do realize that the government may be misinformed by some individuals. So, it would be wrong for me to place the blame squarely on the government.

[Marshall] But, perhaps, you do blame certain individuals within the government?

[Moyo] I wouldn't say so because I have no proof as to exactly whether it was an individual within the government or an outsider.

[Marshall] And do you intend to continue in politics, Mr Moyo?

[Moyo] Yes, sir, I will continue to do that, certainly. [end recording]

Church Heads Want Action Against Mugabe Supporters

MB101938 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1814 GMT 10 Mar 86

[Text] Harare, March 10, SAPA — Church leaders in Zimbabwe are demanding government action against crowd supporters of the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, in Mutare, who invaded the Anglican Cathedral, interrupted a church service shouting political slogans and singing party songs, danced on the altar, assaulted a priest and took over the property for two weeks.

Brief but ominous reports in the local press did not reflect the true story, revealed in a report sent to the prime minister, government ministers and other heads of churches at the weekend.

The report, headlined: "Tekere seizes one million dollars of church property: police forbidden to intervene: law and order non-existent in Mutare," was prepared by the dean of Mutare's St Johns Cathedral, the Rev John Knight, and his church council.

It describes how a mob of between 400 and 500 supporters of Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (PF), some armed with sticks, marched into the cathedral on February 16 and:

— Rocked and turned pews over to get the congregation out,
— Danced on the altar, beating out the candles with newspapers,
— Knocked one priest over at the altar and dragged him down the steps and the full length of the cathedral, flat on his face,
— Children being led to safety thrown in all directions by some of the mob,
— One elderly lady, severely attacked, carried out by the parishioners in a state of shock.

Police, asked to remove the invaders, to protect parishioners and restore church property, explained that they were under strict orders "from above" to do nothing because it was "Tekere business."

Mr Edgar Tekere is the flamboyant, heavy-drinking former Zimbabwe minister who was fired from the cabinet and his post as party secretary-general after he was found not guilty, on a technicality, of the murder of an elderly white farmer in December 10980.

Since then he has recovered to become provincial ZANU-PF chairman for Manicaland — the eastern province on the border with Mozambique with its main city of Mutare, formerly called Umtali.

The report says that it was Mr Tekere who addressed the mob outside the cathedral and egged them on to its take over, ordering them to drive out the Sunday worshippers. The report charges that Mr Tekere personally brutally assaulted the bishop's caretaker and another member of his house staff in public on the fateful Sunday.

The demonstrators vacated the cathedral on March 1 after the speaker of the House of Assembly, Mr Didymus Mutasa, was called to Mutare and personally over-ruled Mr Tekere, ordered the sitters-in out and instructed police to remove them forcibly if they did not leave. The mob action was sparked by a row between the bishop of Manicaland, the Rt Rev Elijah Masuko, and one of his priests, Father Keeble Prosser.